

Victoria Street Newz January 2014

Since 2004
Volume 10,
Number 10



*"All the news that fits,
we print"*

**Sold by
donation**
vendor cost:
50 cents



downtown story collective!

story on page 3



About Street Newz

Coordinator: Janine Bandcroft

Distribution Coordinator: John Chomyn

Deliveries: Nancy Raycroft

Advisory Committee:

Chris Cook, Robin Hitt,
James Rowe, Kim Fagerlund.

Founded in 2004, the *Victoria Street Newz* welcomes written submissions including personal stories, interviews, event reviews, cartoons, poetry, photographs, or artwork, but we can't guarantee everything will be published. We reserve the right to edit, and will not print anything libelous, racist, sexist, or homophobic. Letters sent to the editor are assumed to be for publication, must include phone number or email (if possible, for confirmation) and may be edited for length. You can publish using a pseudonym, or anonymously.

We are devoted to a triple bottom line philosophy - concerned about our environmental and social, as well as financial, well-being.

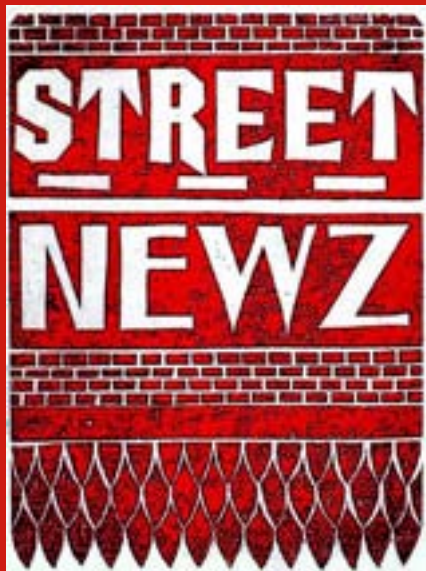
You can contribute to social change by supporting the *Victoria Street Newz* team, by pondering the root causes of poverty, and by working for peaceful, non-violent change.

Opinions expressed in this newzpaper are not necessarily those of *Victoria Street Newz*, the editors, advertisers, contributors, readers, or publishers. Please don't reprint without author's permission, and please credit the source.

Victoria Street Newz is printed on 100% post consumer recycled paper with vegetable ink, at Web exPress Printing in Vancouver.

Your written submissions are welcome. Please send them via e-mail, if possible, by the 1st Friday for the next month's issue. *Street Newz* is named monthly, but published mid-month. You can also mail or drop off articles, letters, or donations to our mailbox at Raincoast Business Centre:

**1027 Pandora Ave
Coast Salish Territory
Victoria, B.C., V8V 3P6
streetnewz@islandnet.com
250-383-5144 ext 0137
relativenewz.ca**



downtown story collective!

janinebandcroft.blogspot.com

They're only a year old, but already they've established a caring community of artists, musicians, photographers, writers. They're the Downtown Story Collective (DSC) and, thanks to street poet and long time *Street Newz* contributor Mark Idczak's kind invitation, I was in attendance at their first public event.

Dale's Gallery, on Fisgard Street, was full and over-flowing with artists, their friends and family, all supporting and celebrating this wonderful new community and their work. Art was displayed throughout the gallery – writings, carvings, paintings, drawings, beadwork, photography, sculptures, and my personal favourite, a "shared canvas." As I stood looking at its very colourful combinations of images, a gentleman named Gordon Hawkins explained that each week, throughout the year, members of the collective added something to the piece. We talked about the different faces we could see within it, some created intentionally and some that just seem to have appeared, and wondered whether this human ability to see faces (in rocks and other formations) is merely an anthropocentric outreach, or maybe those faces really are there in some energy form.



Gordon told me he was homeless for about a year, but he's now housed and has completed a course in acupuncture. Like so many I've met who've experienced the challenges of poverty and street life, Gordon chooses to give back to the community that helped him when he was most vulnerable. Every Wednesday and Thursday Gordon sets up a massage table in the corner of the busy Our Place drop in centre and offers free acupuncture to whoever wants it. I asked him if he's got his own practice somewhere but he said no, not yet, for now he enjoys doing this for his street friends. A true healer, in my opinion!

I wandered through the crowd, snapping photos (available on my Facebook page), chatting with various people, and stopped to admire some bike art crafted by Glenn Schulte who had painted an image of the old "Upper Room" (see cover). He'd arrived in Victoria during the last year the old Open Door and Upper Room were in existence, before they were demolished to make way for



the larger Our Place space. We shared some memories from those "good old days," and he told me how he salvages old bike parts, scrubs them clean, then adorns them with various beads he collects or trades. He took some art classes in his younger years, he told me, and has been an artist all his life. How wonderful that there's a safe and inclusive space for him and others to express themselves! We're all artists in some capacity, and our world is richer when we can tell our stories in whatever way we choose, and share safely among friends.

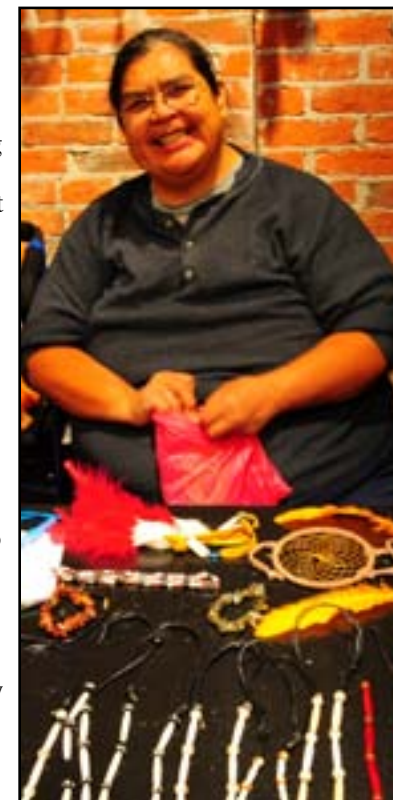
The event part of the evening began with a young woman at a keyboard, singing a heart felt song about the challenge of isolation and loneliness. She was followed by a shy fellow who was gently coaxed to the mic to read some of his poetry, and then it was my friend Mark's turn to read some of his writings and sing a couple of songs. I've known Mark many years, and I know he loves to be on stage. Accompanied by musicians on piano and mandolin, this night he channeled Elvis with a rendition of "Santa Bring My Baby Back To Me."

I stayed for a few more performances, marveling at the young man whose seemingly random flip through his obviously well used old notebook was actually a measured method to find the precise readings he had in mind to share. He read tales conjuring Mordor and angry flesh-eating demons, war and peace, love and pain, he exposed the hypocrisy of the Christmas holiday season and, after each reading, received the crowd's warm response with an appreciative nod, acknowledging the merit of his own work.

As Mark likes to point out, the street community aren't a pretentious bunch. They don't, as a general rule, put on airs and pretend to be something they're not. It's a humbling experience to spend time among them. Many are shy, it takes a great deal of courage to put yourself and your work out there. Some realize their talents and aren't afraid to take to the stage to share them. This night was filled with all sorts of diverse and creative souls, expressing themselves in a safe and loving environment. Let's hope for many more such events from the Downtown Story Collective!

The Downtown Story Collective (DSC) is a community that values equality, creativity, mutual respect, collaboration, education, and expression. They meet at Our Place Society (919 Pandora) every Tuesday evening from 6-8pm to learn, work, and create together. Everyone is welcome. You can find them on Facebook, or visit their website at thedscollective.wordpress.com.

Janine founded the *Victoria Street Newz* in 2004, and it continues to be one of her favourite creative projects each month.



Marilyn with her artistic creations

Dog Day Afternoon

by cyann ray



November 20th was a bad day to be a law-biding dog on Kitsilano Beach. Beloved pet “Pandora” was being walked on a leash when a dog running free approached. Dogs often feel more defensive when tethered, especially when confronted with an untethered dog. An “incident” ensued and moments later, Pandora was stabbed to death by an armed senior citizen. No charges are pending.

As someone who was warned and ticketed numerous times for having my dog off-leash, I’m confused why this little offending pug got off scott-free. And his bylaw-breaking owner was allowed to kill a leashed dog with no consequences. Hmm...

Mainstream (corporate) media seemed eager to report that “Pandora” was a pitbull and as the owner of the pug continued to stab her to death (even after the dogs were separated), he yelled out “You deserve to die!” I wonder if Mr. Knife-wielder would have been so quick to kill had a different breed of dog grabbed his pet. Either way ... he and his pug were in the wrong, and so is everyone one else who uses this incident to perpetuate the negative stereotype given to pitbulls.

I’m not here to defend one breed over another. All dogs have the potential to be well-behaved or not, depending on their owners. I feel the real problem is the counter-productive mandatory leash laws and the lack of off-leash areas. This incident occurred in an area where leashes were required ... and the victim was on a leash. She was not, however, under effective control and it cost her her life.

Leashes do not guarantee control. This has been proven time and time again. Dogs can still bark, bite, attack, kill (or be killed) and run off while “leashed”. Control is what matters and the only way to establish control over your dog is to effectively train it ... and that requires regular, off-leash social opportunities.

I’m back at the Dallas Road dog park with my new puppy. The overt lack of control people have over their dogs down there is frustrating. This is where the counter-productive nature of mandatory leash laws is evident. The law is meant to control dogs, but leash-dependent dogs are actually more unpredictable than dogs given ample off-leash opportunities. Dogs that are usually leashed (or otherwise “contained”, like in a yard), come to these off-leash parks and anything can happen. Their owners have

had no reason to establish verbal control since they are always leashed.

I tried for years to get the mayor or council to consider changing the bylaws regarding dogs. Rather than blindly enforcing mandatory leash laws, I suggested we re-word the law to: “Dogs must be under effective control at all times”. It is control that matters, and since leashes do not guarantee control, this change just makes sense. It would also help in maintaining order in off-leash areas.

Let’s look at what happened on Kitsilano Beach. In an ideal dog community, all the dogs know each other ... as do their owners. The dogs are all under control, even off-leash, as it is not a novelty, but rather, a daily occurrence from puppyhood. Establishing true (reliable) control over your dog can only happen if you have plenty of off-leash and social opportunities. Having your dog listen to you and “come” in your home is quite different than having him listen and obey while running free with other dogs.

Ideally, all puppies should grow up exposed to social, off-leash environments so they learn how to behave and adapt in all situations. And dog owners should commit the time to ensure this happens. Sadly, many dog owners don’t have the time or inclination to effectively train their dogs. The mandatory leash laws invite such owners to simply forgo establishing control.

When dog attacks make the news, many people (usually non-dog-owning), start spouting off about getting rid of off-leash parks altogether, and insist that all dogs, all the time should be leashed. I don’t blame them ... they don’t know any better. But “dog people” (those who truly love and understand dogs ... whether they own one or not), will likely agree with what I’ve said.

City Hall doesn’t appear to be dog-friendly. They support a for-profit enforcement team to administer tickets to dog owners, rather than a benevolent animal welfare approach. They have posted more signs making it clear that leashes are mandatory in most green spaces and beaches. And they have not added any more off-leash parks.

This is all quite disheartening for me as I want to fully train and socialize my new pup. With no off-leash area within walking distance, this is proving to be quite challenging. (Don’t get me started on the ludicrousness of having to use a car to “walk” your dog!).

FIND SOLIDARITY with the grassroots Committee to End Homelessness

(ctehv.wordpress.com)

We meet every Wednesday

Week 1 at Silver Threads

(1728 Douglas St.), 7- 8:30 pm

Week 2 at Our Place Chapel, 1:30-3:00 pm

Week 3 at Silver Threads, 7-8:30 pm

Week 4 at Silver Threads, 7-8:30 pm

Week 5 at Silver Threads, 7-8:30 pm

Everyone is welcome!



People’s Prize for Patience

November 22nd was the National Housing Day in Canada, and it was commemorated with a “People’s Prize for Patience” awarded on November 20th (Welfare Wednesday).

Many have been on the BC housing list for years. There are currently about 1,400, up 300 since 2009. Representatives from the Committee to End Homelessness explained “these are folk in shelters, in precarious housing, or on the street. Shame on our privileged society!”

Kym Hothead read some names off the list: Sean, 2 weeks; Patrick, 1 year; Don, 4 years; Clifford, 5 years; Andrea, 5 years; David, 6 years; Francesco, 7 years; Dave, 8 years; Ted, 14 years; Izzy, 15 years; William, 24 years.

David explained that “if you’re on the list you have to keep checking on your status ... you’ve got to go to all these places yourself to see if there are any vacancies. I don’t know what the people in the housing office do, I guess they just maintain the list.” Kym said BC Housing has had significant funding cuts, in addition he believes that people working for the ministry feel muzzled, they can’t advocate for real change.

Meanwhile, people are in a crisis month to month, disabled people spend their days looking for housing, lining up at food banks, bottling or panhandling or selling newspapers or whatever work they can do to supplement their meagre government subsidy.

Ted believes the focus is misplaced. Taxpayers’ money is going to “poverty pimps” who offer “little ramshackle bedbug infested shacks that they rent out for over \$550” while the housing subsidy is only \$375. “On DBII, \$906 each month, after I pay my rent, my hydro, and my Telus, I’ve got about \$56 a month left to live on.”

The Jubilee Pharmacy offered (without asking) a \$65 shopping coupon. There was another \$50 gift certificate, a sleeping bag and mat, and some food to give away. The young homeless guy in the photo above, at the start of his first winter outside, was delighted to have the sleeping bag and mat.

Victoria’s Committee to End Homelessness (ctehv.wordpress.com) works to protect housing as a right for all rather than merely a commodity for the affluent. This event was also supported by Together Against Poverty, the Action Committee for People with Disabilities, Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group and the Radical Health Alliance.

Clowns Against Child Poverty

On November 13th the Clowns Against Child Poverty served free oatmeal outside all the major banks. Why? Because BC has had the highest rate of child poverty in Canada for 9 of the last 10 years, nearly 40 % of food bank users are children, and the big bank profits in 2012 totalled over 27 billion. You can find the Clowns Against Child Poverty on Facebook.



The Coup that Killed JFK: Fifty Years Later

(third of three parts)

by Gordon Pollard

Few events in history have been as shocking as the assassination of President John Kennedy on November 22nd, 1963, and few events have cast such a long shadow. Indeed, the shots fired that long-ago noonhour in Dallas, Texas, have reverberated for decades as the techniques employed in the JFK murder and cover-up have been used as a template by dark forces within the U.S. government to carry out a series of other assassinations and frauds, including the murders of Senator Robert Kennedy and civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King.

Let's now begin looking at some of the main points about how and why Bobby Kennedy was killed as he walked through the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on the evening of June 5th, 1968, and how and why Dr. Martin Luther King was killed while he stood on a balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, on the evening of April 4th, 1968.

• *The Bobby Kennedy assassination provides one of the clearest examples in history of how frighteningly easy it is to trick people into believing a big lie as long as that lie seems reasonably plausible at first glance and is then drummed into people's brains by repeating it relentlessly. Superficially, there seemed to be an open and shut case that the alleged assassin, Sirhan Sirhan, killed Senator Kennedy. But when one cuts through all the official flim-flam and examines the evidence, it becomes clear that Sirhan wasn't the real murderer at all. He was just used as a diversionary patsy.*

Indeed, when the official story of the RFK murder is subjected to critical scrutiny, it falls apart completely. For example, Sirhan's gun -- allegedly the only one fired in the hotel kitchen that night -- was capable of shooting a maximum of eight bullets, but, as we will see, there is incontrovertible evidence that at least eleven shots were fired in the pantry and that they came from at least two different guns.

Though there were many journalists in the hotel pantry that night when the shots rang out, only one, a Polish reporter named Stanislaw Pruszyński, happened to have his tape-recorder turned on and the sounds captured on his audio-cassette instantly became one of history's most important recordings -- and it has taken on even greater significance in recent years since today's more sophisticated equipment has made it possible to carry out a quality of audio-analysis that couldn't be done back in 1968.

Indeed, one of America's leading experts on cutting-edge acoustical research techniques, Philip Van Praag, has taken a keen interest in the Bobby Kennedy murder and has carried out a painstakingly detailed analysis of the Pruszyński tape.

On the basis of that research, Van Praag says "there is no question whatsoever that there were a lot more than eight shots in the hotel pantry that night -- at least eleven and quite possibly as many as thirteen -- and those shots were fired from at least two different guns".

Analysis of the sound waves and vibrations, he says, "revealed a frequency anomaly with respect to five of the shots, indicating that a second gun was fired, of a make and model different from the one allegedly used by Sirhan."

"It is absolutely clear", Van Praag says, "that in the pantry while Sirhan was firing from east to west, there was another gun firing five shots from west to east". A full detailed account of Van Praag's analysis of the audio evidence can be found in *An Open and Shut Case*, a book Van Praag co-authored with Dr. Robert Joling.

It is also important to note that Van Praag's findings were corroborated by statements from a number of

"ear-witnesses" in the pantry that night who said they heard more than eight shots. For example, Estelyn Duffie Lattive said she was certain she heard "at least ten shots". And Booker Griffin said: "I heard two quick shots. Then there was a slight pause followed by about ten or twelve additional shots."

Interestingly, one of the most important witnesses in the kitchen that night has a British Columbia connection. She is Nina Rhodes-Hughes, who was a young actress and Kennedy campaign volunteer at that time and is now living in retirement in the Vancouver area.

Shortly after the assassination, Rhodes-Hughes was interviewed by FBI agents and in its official report the FBI said Rhodes-Hughes had stated she heard no more than eight shots and thought Sirhan Sirhan was the lone gunman.

But Rhodes-Hughes was shocked when she saw that report. "Actually," she says, "I never, never told the FBI I heard only eight shots. That is a blatant lie. I actually told them I heard at least twelve shots, and maybe as many as fourteen, and that I believed there were at least two gunmen."

Though she made many requests to the FBI to correct the statements attributed to her in the report, all of her appeals were ignored and she says it was made clear to her, none too subtly, that if she knew what was good for her, she should stop rocking the boat and go along with the official story.

But Rhodes-Hughes refused to be intimidated and for the past 45 years she has been calling for a "new, honest investigation" into the RFK murder. "I think it is important", she says, "for everyone to know that the official story about the so-called lone gunman Sirhan Sirhan isn't true at all. There was no way that the shots coming from my right could possibly have been fired by Sirhan. I'm fed up with all the lies and all the cover-ups".

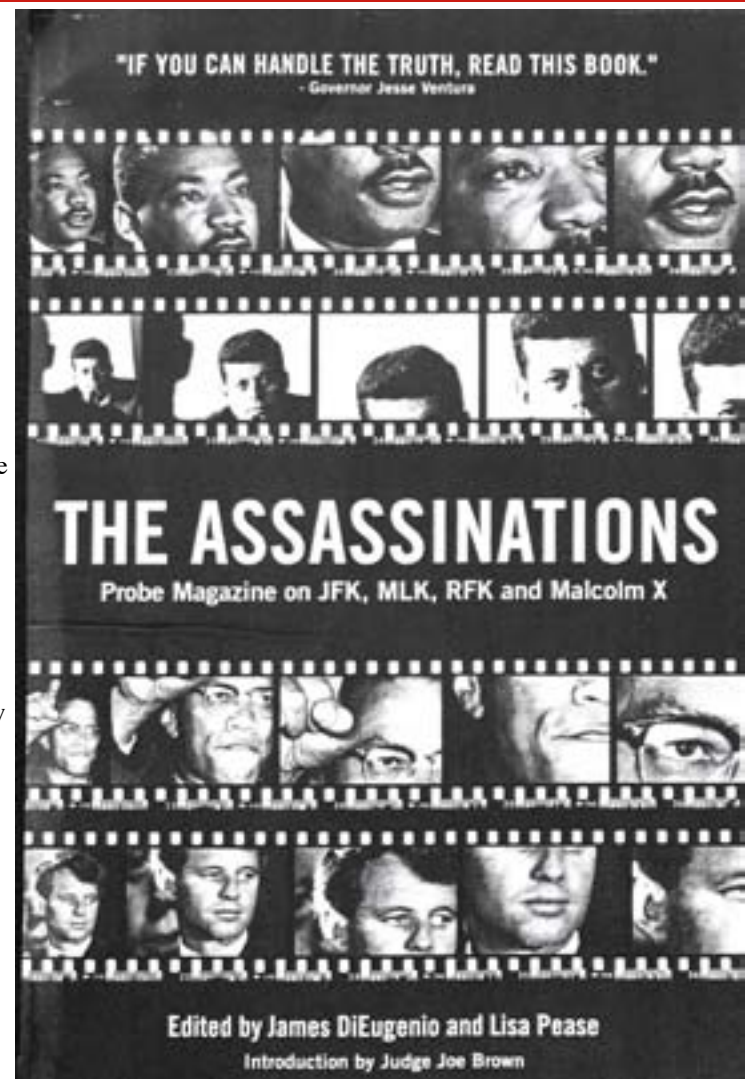
For an excellent detailed account of what Nina Rhodes-Hughes and other witnesses really saw and heard in the Ambassador Hotel kitchen that night, see *Shadow Play: The Killing of Robert Kennedy, the Trial of Sirhan Sirhan and the Failure of American Justice* by Philip Melanson and William Klaber.

• *According to the testimony of every single witness who was present in the hotel pantry that night and the official autopsy report carried out by the Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas Noguchi, it would have been physically impossible for Sirhan to have fired the shot that killed Senator Kennedy since Sirhan was at all times positioned at least two or three feet in front of Kennedy but the fatal bullet was fired from a gun which was positioned no more than two inches behind Kennedy's head and which left a severe powder burn behind his right ear.*

When we looked at the JFK assassination, we saw that a "magic bullet" performed some amazing physics-defying feats -- but, as remarkable as that "magic bullet" in Dallas was, it couldn't match the spectacular display of ballistic acrobatics performed by the four "super-magic bullets" that struck Bobby Kennedy's body and clothing in Los Angeles on the evening of June 5th, 1968.

Indeed, as researcher Lisa Pease wryly observes: "The night Robert Kennedy was shot, science suddenly changed: no longer did bullets fly in straight paths -- they imitated instead the paths of stunt pilot barnstormers."

According to every person who was present in the hotel kitchen that night, Sirhan was standing in front of and



This 677-page book, published in 2003, explains in detail how John Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X were "systematically eliminated" by a conspiracy that included many powerful people inside the U.S. government.

facing Bobby Kennedy when the shots were fired -- but the autopsy and forensic investigations showed that the three bullets that hit Kennedy (one in the head and two in the back) and a fourth bullet that passed through the edge of his jacket without touching his body were all fired from behind. If those bullets were fired from Sirhan's gun, they would have had to make a sweeping U-turn around Kennedy's body to hit him from behind.

Moreover, the autopsy carried out by Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas Noguchi revealed that the fatal shot that struck Kennedy in the head was fired from a gun no more than two inches away from Kennedy's body -- so close, in fact, that it left a severe powder burn behind his right ear.

It is clear from the testimony of all the witnesses in the hotel kitchen that night that Sirhan's gun never came anywhere near that close to Kennedy's body -- only one witness estimated it came as close as a foot and a half, and most witnesses estimated it was never closer than two or three feet.

So it turns out Sirhan was not only facing in the wrong direction to have fired the bullets that hit Kennedy but his gun was also too far away from Kennedy's body to have fired the fatal close-up shot into the back of his head.

Although the authorities began a massive propaganda campaign to sell the Sirhan-did-it-alone story to the public immediately after the assassination, it was clear to many of those who witnessed the murder that the so-called "open and shut case" against Sirhan was actually a big lie.

As we've already noted, for example, witness Nina Rhodes-Hughes realized right away that Sirhan couldn't possibly have fired the fatal bullet that struck Kennedy from behind -- and that was also obvious to other witnesses such as attorney Frank Burns who was standing just to the right of Kennedy. "There was no way in the world," Burns says, "that Sirhan could have fired the fatal head shot."

Television producer Richard Lubric, who was also standing very close to RFK at the time of the shooting, says: "I was at Senator Kennedy's right side when Sirhan appeared. The muzzle of the gun was two to three feet away from Senator Kennedy's head. It is nonsense to say Sirhan fired bullets into Senator Kennedy from a distance of one to three inches since his gun was never anywhere near that close to Kennedy."

But the witness who has been the most angry and outspoken critic

of the official version of the RFK murder over the years -- and for very good reason -- is Paul Schrade, a United Auto Workers Union official who was standing next to Kennedy in the pantry that night and was wounded in the head during the shooting. Though Schrade survived emergency surgery, some tiny bullet fragments remain in his skull to this day.

According to the official story, Schrade was wounded by a bullet fired by Sirhan that had first struck Kennedy, but Schrade says that claim is “absolutely ridiculous.” Schrade points out that in order for he and Kennedy to have been hit by the same bullet, that bullet would have first had to make a U-turn to hit Kennedy from behind and then change direction again to hit Schrade.

Today, more than 45 years after Robert Kennedy was killed, Schrade believes it is still as important as ever to have an honest investigation into the murder. He believes the Bobby Kennedy murder and cover-up have left a terrible stain on the soul of America and thinks the only way that stain can ever be removed is by facing the truth about the assassination.

At the age of 88, Schrade continues to serve as a volunteer helping disadvantaged children in the slums of east Los Angeles, as he has done for more than four decades. “This volunteer work,” Schrade says, “is my way of honouring the memory of Bobby Kennedy. Helping kids in our poorest neighbourhoods was one of the causes Bobby cared about most passionately.”

Paul Schrade is a truly amazing man. He remains just as fiercely committed to the pursuit of truth and social justice today as he was on that long-ago summer night when he was struck in the head by one of the bullets fired in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel.

For more information about what really happened in the hotel kitchen that fateful night, see: [The Robert F. Kennedy Assassination](#) by Philip H. Melanson, [Dead Wrong](#) by Richard Belzer and David Wayne, [Legacy of Secrecy](#) by Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann, and an article entitled “The RFK Plot: The Grand Illusion” by Lisa Pease in [The Assassinations](#).

• ***It is as clear and certain as anything can ever be in historical research that Bobby Kennedy was not really killed by Sirhan Sirhan as officially claimed but by a man named Thane Eugene Cesar, a security guard who was standing directly behind Kennedy with a gun drawn and was the only person physically close enough to have been able to fire the fatal shot which came from a gun no more than two inches from Kennedy's head.***

In any normal murder case, if the victim was shot in the back of the head at close range and a man was standing directly behind the victim with a gun drawn at the time of the shooting, that man with the gun would obviously be the prime suspect in the murder. But not so in this case! Indeed, to this day very few people have ever heard of Thane Eugene Cesar or are aware that, by his own admission, Cesar was standing directly behind Bobby Kennedy at the time of the murder and was holding a gun just inches from Kennedy's head.

Under circumstances that remain murky to this day, Cesar, a 26-year-old plumber, managed to get hired as a security guard to help provide protection for Bobby Kennedy's California primary victory celebration at the Ambassador Hotel on the evening of June 5th, 1968, even though he

was, to say the very least, an inappropriate candidate for the job.

A rabid racist and outspoken supporter of segregationist Alabama Governor George Wallace, Cesar had never made any secret of how much he hated John and Bobby Kennedy. Indeed, he had often publicly railed about how he believed the Kennedy brothers were “selling the country out to the commies and the minorities.”

“I'm fed up”, Cesar had ranted. “We've had this integration stuff shoved down our throats enough and one of these days we're going to fight back. There's going to be a civil war in this country -- it's going to be whites against blacks.”

It is truly mind-boggling to realize that this was the man who was acting as a “security guard” and was standing directly behind Robert Kennedy -- closer than any other person -- when the shots were fired in the hotel kitchen that night.

Though Cesar has never denied drawing his revolver or holding it just inches from Senator Kennedy's head, he has steadfastly insisted to this day that he never fired the weapon -- even though he was the only person physically close enough to have been able to fire the bullet that was drilled into the back of Kennedy's head from a distance of less than two inches away, and even though one of the key witnesses in the hotel kitchen that night, a young television cameraman named Donald Schulman, said he saw Cesar fire his gun at Kennedy.

Astonishingly, the authorities were so determined to sell the Sirhan-did-it alone story to the public that Cesar was never asked even a single question by the police on the night of the murder nor was his gun examined. Cesar simply walked out of the hotel with his gun and went home.

Months later when Cesar was finally interviewed by police, he claimed he couldn't have fired the .22 calibre bullet retrieved from Senator Kennedy's brain because he didn't possess a .22 calibre gun at the time of the murder. Cesar admitted he had once owned such a gun but claimed he sold it four months before the assassination to a man named Jim Yoder.

Cesar's claim was exposed as a blatant lie, however, when Yoder produced a receipt from Cesar showing he had paid Cesar fifteen dollars for a nine-shot H and R 22-calibre pistol, serial number Y13332 on September 6th, 1968 -- three months after Bobby Kennedy was killed.

But even though all of the evidence clearly showed that Sirhan couldn't possibly have killed Bobby Kennedy and that Cesar was the only person in the hotel kitchen that night who could have committed the murder, the authorities didn't show the slightest interest in investigating the case honestly and bringing Cesar to justice.

On the contrary, they launched an intensive disinformation campaign, spearheaded by one of the CIA's veteran whitewash specialists, author Dan Moldea, to try to defend the indefensible case against Sirhan for the murder and to try to convince the public that Cesar was “just an innocent bystander”.

Moldea dutifully tried to muddle the fuzzification as much as he possibly could (if I may borrow Allan Fotheringham's famous phrase). In his book, [The Killing of Robert Kennedy](#), Moldea urges readers, in effect, to just blindly accept the Sirhan-did-it-alone story. The only thing wrong with this official story, he says, is that it “contains

a few anomalies and inconsistencies.”

Actually, however, what is wrong with the official story of the Bobby Kennedy murder is not that it “contains a few anomalies and inconsistencies”. What is wrong with the official story is that it is a pack of lies from beginning to end.

The fact that Thane Eugene Cesar was able to murder Bobby Kennedy and get away with the crime scot free with the help of the authorities is one of the most shocking examples in history of how myth and illusion sometimes trump truth and reality. If a big lie such as the Sirhan story is drummed into people's brains long enough and effectively enough, it is eventually accepted as “the truth” even though it isn't what really happened at all. Today -- more than 45 years after the RFK assassination -- Cesar is living quietly in the Philippines, understandably keeping a very low profile, while, as author Richard Belzer notes, “Sirhan Bishara Sirhan continues to languish in prison in California, for a crime which we now know with absolute certainty he did not commit.”

For more information about the chilling but fascinating story of Thane Eugene Cesar, see: [Who Killed Bobby?: The Unsolved Murder of Robert F. Kennedy](#) by Shane O'Sullivan, [The Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy](#) by William Turner and John Christian and [Legacy of Secrecy](#) by Lamar Waldron and Thom Hartmann.

• ***There is compelling evidence that Sirhan was “programmed” through the use of hypnosis and drugs both to shoot at Senator Kennedy in the hotel pantry and to plead guilty to murder in court. He appears to have been one of the so-called “Manchurian candidates” produced by the CIA under its notorious MK-ULTRA program, which was designed to carry out assassinations and various other acts of skulduggery. To this day Sirhan says that he has no recollection at all of shooting Kennedy or pleading guilty in court -- and a number of credible psychiatric experts who have examined him are convinced he is telling the truth.***

Many of those who witnessed the shooting of Bobby Kennedy in the hotel kitchen were shocked almost as much by the strange appearance and bizarre behaviour of the alleged killer Sirhan Sirhan as they were by the murder itself. Far from looking like a crazed wild-eyed fanatic, Sirhan looked remarkably calm -- almost serene -- amid all the commotion in the pantry.

For example, writer George Plimpton, one of the men who subdued Sirhan, was amazed that his eyes seemed “so enormously peaceful”. Witness Joseph Lahair said Sirhan was “very tranquil -- not agitated at all”. And two waiters, Vincent Di Pierro and Martin Patrusky, said Sirhan was “smiling very strangely”.

Even as early as the night of the assassination, a policeman named Art Pacencia publicly expressed the thought that Sirhan might have been “programmed” to commit the murder. Pacencia said the pupils of Sirhan's eyes “looked dilated like those of someone in a hypnotic state.” I remember reading some reports shortly after the murder that Sirhan's bizarre zombie-like behaviour were raising suspicions in some quarters that he had been programmed with drugs or hypnosis to shoot at Senator Kennedy.

At first, however, like most others, I thought the suggestion that Sirhan had been a real-life “Manchurian candidate” programmed to shoot at Robert Kennedy

was so kooky and spooky that I didn't take it very seriously. Indeed, I can understand why some people who haven't studied this issue closely might still think the concept of mind-control is crazy.

Personally, however, on the basis of what I have learned over the past 45 years about the frighteningly effective mind-control techniques that the CIA developed and employed in its MK-ULTRA program, I am now convinced that Sirhan was, in fact, programmed through mind-manipulation to fire his gun at Bobby Kennedy that night.

And a lot of others have now come to the same conclusion. For example, during a discussion about the latest mind-control research on the widely-syndicated radio program *Coast to Coast AM* on February 14th, 2013, host George Noory said that, though he was once skeptical, he now believes there is clear evidence that mind-control techniques were used on Sirhan to get him to fire his gun at Bobby Kennedy.

Most significantly, a number of America's foremost experts on psychiatric medicine and hypnosis have now publicly stated they believe Sirhan was “programmed” to participate in the RFK assassination.

One of these experts, Dr. Herbert Spiegel, said: “After going over all of the data on Sirhan very carefully, I concluded that someone programmed him to be in that hotel kitchen and fire that gun. This was definitely a case of manipulation through mind-control.”

Another leading authority on hypnosis, Dr. George H. Estabrooks, said: “Hypnosis is widely used by intelligence agencies in the United States and other countries. It is like child's play now to develop a multiple personality through hypnosis.”

Recently one person who has taken a particularly keen interest in the Sirhan case is Dr. Daniel Brown of Harvard University, one of the world's leading specialists in trauma memory and hypnosis.

“I think it is now clear,” Brown says, “that Sirhan was an involuntary participant in the crime because he was subjected to sophisticated hypno-programming and memory implantation techniques which rendered him unable to control his thoughts and actions at the time the crime was committed.”

That view is shared by independent researcher Lisa Pease, who is regarded in some circles as the world's leading expert on the RFK murder. “There is no question,” Pease says, “that Sirhan was a mind-controlled patsy who was programmed to perform an act of ‘attempted assassination’ to distract attention from the real killers.”

For more information about the scary but fascinating world of mind manipulation in general and the CIA's MK-ULTRA mind-control experiments in particular, see: [RFK Must Die!](#) by Robert Kaiser, [Operation Mind Control](#) by Walter Bowart, [The Mind Manipulators](#) by Alan W. Schehlin and Edward M. Opton Jr., and [The Inner Source: Exploring Hypnosis with Dr. Herbert Spiegel](#) by Donald S. Connery.

• ***It is important to note that the Bobby Kennedy murder is the only one of the assassinations of the 1960s that is still an active case -- in theory at least -- since both the man accused of killing RFK, Sirhan Sirhan, and the man who almost certainly really killed him, Thane Eugene Cesar, are still alive. By contrast, in the John Kennedy and Martin Luther King cases, both of the***

patsies accused of killing JFK and King are dead -- and all of the real killers are also known, or believed to be, dead.

As author James Di Eugenio observes: “None of the assassinations carried out in the 1960s was more clearly and obviously a sinister conspiracy and despicable cover-up than the Robert Kennedy murder. And what makes it worse is that the innocent patsy is still alive and in jail more than 45 years after Bobby Kennedy was killed.”

Today, while Sirhan Sirhan languishes in prison in San Diego, California, for a murder he never committed, his lawyer William Pepper continues to call for “a new, honest trial for Sirhan -- one that will finally reveal the truth about the assassination of Senator Kennedy.”

Among those supporting Pepper’s call for a new trial is author Shane O’Sullivan, who asks: “How could an assassination that radically altered the course of contemporary American history have been followed by such a hapless and wilfully negligent police investigation and such a farcical trial? This is not ancient history. Sirhan is still in prison and will stay there until he dies unless changes in public opinion alter political perceptions of this case”.

Lawyer William Pepper says the trial in 1969 at which Sirhan was found guilty of first-degree murder was “nothing more than a farce and a sham”. At that trial, Pepper says, the government-appointed lawyers who were advising Sirhan at the time tricked him into pleading guilty even though he told them he had no recollection at all about what happened on the night Bobby Kennedy was shot. “All of the so-called evidence presented against Sirhan,” Pepper says, “has now been completely discredited.”

He notes, for example, that an independent analysis carried out by one of America’s most renowned ballistics experts, Professor Herbert Leon MacDonnell, compared one of the bullets removed from Senator Kennedy’s neck to a bullet removed from the body of another shooting victim in the kitchen, William Weisel, and concluded: “These two bullets couldn’t possibly have been fired from the same weapon.”

Even more shockingly, MacDonnell concluded that “the bullet removed from Senator Kennedy was not fired from the Iver Johnson .22 Cadet #H53725 revolver reportedly taken from Sirhan”.

Indeed, Pepper notes some experts have now raised serious doubts as to whether Sirhan was even firing live ammunition on the night of the assassination. For example, Italian researcher Massimo Mazzucco, who has made a painstakingly detailed study of the ballistic evidence, said on the *Coast to Coast AM* radio show on July 13th, 2011: “My research indicates Sirhan almost certainly wasn’t firing live bullets that night. He was shooting blanks.”

If Sirhan was, indeed, firing blanks, that would explain why a number of witnesses such as Norbert Schlei, Richard Aubry, Karl Uecker and Richard Lubic didn’t recognize the sounds they heard in the kitchen as gunshots at first. They thought the noise was that of balloons popping, which is the type of sound one hears when blanks are fired.

Moreover, several witnesses reported observing a halo-like flame around the muzzle of Sirhan’s gun at the time of the shooting -- something that characteristically occurs when blanks are being fired.

In any case, as Pepper says, there is clearly a need for all of the evidence to be thoroughly reviewed and for Sirhan to be granted a new, honest trial. Unfortunately, however, looking at the situation realistically, I think there is practically no chance that the Sirhan case will ever be re-opened even though it obviously should be.

I believe there is no question that everyone of consequence in the U.S. political and judicial power structure, including President Barack Obama and Chief Justice John Roberts, is well aware that Sirhan Sirhan didn’t really kill Bobby Kennedy -- but they are also well aware that re-opening the Sirhan case would pry the lid off Pandora’s Box and all the thousands of official lies about what happened in Los Angeles and Dallas would come flying out.

As we conclude our look at the murder of Bobby Kennedy, it is terribly sad to reflect on what happened that long-ago night in Los Angeles and on the profound impact it had on the United States and the rest of the world.

As author Shane O’Sullivan observes: “The assassination of Bobby Kennedy was a defining moment in contemporary American history that marked the death of sixties idealism. I was struck by the playful, eloquent charisma of Bobby Kennedy, taking to the streets to lead a generation disgusted with the political establishment and to heal a nation broken after the traumas of the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, rioting in the cities and heavy losses in Vietnam. On June 5th, 1968, an assassin’s bullet killed hope and ushered in the Richard Nixon years.”

If I may add a personal note, for me the assassination of Bobby Kennedy was even more devastating than the murders of John Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King. Indeed, in 50 years of studying history, I can’t think of any person about whom I have changed my opinion more profoundly than Robert Kennedy.

I remember that when John Kennedy picked his brother Robert as attorney-general, I thought at first it was nothing more than an appalling act of nepotism and a terrible appointment. But I couldn’t have been more wrong.

Bobby Kennedy turned out to be the best attorney-general the United States has ever had. He initiated more civil rights cases than all of his predecessors combined had done for more than a hundred years. He was also the only attorney-general in modern times who made a serious and concerted effort to combat organized crime.

And, above all, we now know it was Bobby Kennedy who played the key role in securing a peaceful resolution of the Cuban Missile Crisis, and for that alone all of humanity owes him a huge debt of gratitude. After all these years it is still too horrifying to even think about what might have happened had Bobby Kennedy not been in that cabinet room in Washington during those thirteen terrible days in October, 1962, when our world teetered closer than it ever has, and hopefully ever will, to Armageddon.

• ***By the spring of 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King was regarded by many of the most powerful people in the United States as one of their prime enemies since they believed King’s massive mobilization of opposition to the Vietnam war and the huge support he was gaining for his Poor People’s campaign posed a serious threat to their political, military and economic power.***

Among King’s many foes in Washington, D.C., none hated him more bitterly or was more determined to get rid of him than FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover -- and it is no surprise therefore that the events of April 4th, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee, have the FBI’s fingerprints all over them.

As soon as news broke in the early evening of April 4th, 1968, that Martin Luther King had been murdered in Memphis, Tennessee, red flags immediately began waving since the man in charge of the Memphis police force was none other than Frank Holloman, one of J. Edgar Hoover’s closest friends and advisers. Holloman had served in the FBI for 25 years, the last seven of them as one of Hoover’s chief lieutenants at FBI headquarters in Washington.

Many suspected something was rotten in the state of Tennessee, so to speak, and it didn’t take long for their suspicions to be confirmed. The day after King was slain, the white Mustang in which alleged assassin James Earl Ray had supposedly fled the murder scene was found abandoned in Atlanta, Georgia, and the first FBI official to get to the car to inspect it happened to be an idealistic young agent named Donald G. Wilson.

Wilson was shocked both by what he found and what he didn’t find in the vehicle. Among the items he discovered was a small piece of paper on which the FBI’s phone number had been scribbled. But he couldn’t find any of Ray’s fingerprints on the vehicle even though Ray’s prints were all over the rifle he had supposedly left at the murder scene the night before.

The situation left Wilson feeling so dismayed that he began carrying out a quiet, behind-the-scenes probe into the FBI’s apparent connection to the King killing, and this led to a complex series of events that culminated in Wilson resigning from the FBI and turning over the information he had discovered to lawyers representing the King family.

There is no doubt at all, Wilson believes, that the FBI and “other powerful outside influences” were involved in the King murder. “People in very high positions,” Wilson says, “felt they had a lot to lose. I don’t think King’s assassination was about racism. That’s a red herring. What really concerned the shadow government people in the U.S. is that King wanted to redistribute the wealth of this country. That’s why a decision was made that he had to be eliminated. He was simply too powerful.”

Not surprisingly, the U.S. authorities and their puppets in the mainstream media viciously denounced Wilson, calling him an “untrustworthy and unpatriotic traitor to the FBI.” Actually, of course, he was nothing of the kind. Donald Wilson was a brave and honourable public servant who sacrificed his career for the sake of revealing some very important information about the murder of Martin Luther King.

After leaving the FBI, Wilson became a dedicated teacher in Chicago and spent decades helping children with learning disabilities. Today he lives quietly in retirement in the Chicago area. Unfortunately, very few people have ever heard of Donald G. Wilson -- which is terribly sad since he is an amazing man from whom we can all learn some invaluable lessons about courage and integrity.

A fascinating full-length interview with Wilson, conducted by researcher James W. Douglass, can be found in [The Assassinations](#).

And there are also detailed accounts of the FBI’s links to the King murder in two other books: [The Assassination of Martin Luther King: New Revelations on the Conspiracy and Cover-up](#) by Philip Melanson and [Murder in Memphis : The FBI and the Assassination of Martin Luther King](#) by Mark Lane and Dick Gregory.

• ***The Martin Luther King murder must surely be the only assassination in history in which the gun allegedly used by the assassin was found before the murder had even been committed. Indeed, all of the so-called “evidence” the authorities presented to support their claim that a small-time hoodlum named James Earl Ray killed King is just as phony and preposterous as the “evidence” that was used to frame the patsy Lee Harvey Oswald in the JFK case and the patsy Sirhan Sirhan in the RFK case.***

According to the official story, Ray killed King at 6:01 p.m. while King was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel. Ray supposedly committed the murder by firing a single rifle-shot from the bathroom window of a rooming house across the street.

We are told Ray didn’t bother to wipe his fingerprints off the rifle, a 30.06 Remington 760 Gamemaster, but, astonishingly, wrapped up the rifle in a bundle along with some unfired bullets and a radio bearing his prison identification number, and then left this package outside the entrance of a shop owned by a man named Guy Canipe before fleeing in a white Mustang.

But Canipe, whom even the authorities acknowledged was a very credible witness, said he clearly remembers seeing a man run by his store and drop off the bundle containing the rifle no later than 5:50 p.m. -- at least ten minutes before King was shot.

There is also very serious reason to question whether Ray was even at the scene of the King murder that night. The authorities were able to produce only one eye-witness who claimed to have seen James Earl Ray at the murder scene: a man named Charlie Stephens, who supposedly saw Ray in the rooming house shortly before King was shot.

It turned out, however, that Stephens had been so drunk that night that he couldn’t possibly have identified Ray or anyone else. Indeed, when shown a number of different mug shots, Stephens was unable to pick out Ray’s picture. Sadly, however, the official claims about Stephens “identifying” Ray led to one of the strangest and most shocking travesties of justice in the whole sordid story of the King murder. Stephens’s independent-minded and outspoken wife Grace began asking so many embarrassing questions about the King case that the authorities decided to silence her by having her placed in a mental institution on trumped-up charges that she was insane.

What happened to Grace Stephens was chillingly similar to what happened to Ralph Yates, an important witness in the JFK case. As we saw in the first part of this article, Yates was also incarcerated in a psychiatric hospital in Texas for asking too many embarrassing questions about the patsy Lee Harvey Oswald. Mental institutions were obviously sometimes used as political prisons not only in Texas but also in Tennessee.

In any case, it would have been physically impossible for James Earl Ray, or anyone else, to have killed King from the bathroom of the rooming house using the rifle found outside Guy Canipe’s store since the rifle

was more than six inches too long to have fit into the cramped quarters of the bathroom at the angle that would have been required to hit King.

As author Richard Belzer notes: “The logistics of the bathroom made firing a Remington Model 760 rifle from that bathroom window virtually impossible. It had a wall that would have prevented a weapon the size of that type of rifle from even fitting in the space between the window and the wall that was adjacent to it.”

Moreover, a series of ballistics tests carried out over the years -- by the Memphis police, the FBI and an independent investigative unit -- all concluded that the bullet recovered from King’s body couldn’t possibly have been fired from the rifle belonging to Ray.

It should also be noted that to this day there has never been any rational explanation for one of the most bizarre incidents that occurred in Memphis the night King was killed.

About ten minutes after Ray supposedly fled the murder scene in a white Mustang, several witnesses saw a man jump into another white Mustang and rush away from the scene with some police in pursuit. But at that point the Memphis police radio system was hacked into and a fake message was broadcast, sending the police off in the wrong direction, enabling the driver of that second vehicle (quite possibly the real King assassin) to escape.

It has never been determined who made that fake broadcast. Astonishingly, the authorities said there was no need to investigate the matter since “it was probably just a hoax carried out by some mischievous teenager”. Honest, folks, that’s what the officials actually said – I’m not making this up!

After the assassination, Ray supposedly managed to drive his white Mustang from the murder site in Memphis all the way to Atlanta, Georgia, without once being stopped along the way even though all of the police throughout the region had been placed on high alert.

Then, according to the official story, this dim-witted Grade 8 dropout embarked on a remarkably well-planned journey through several parts of the U.S. and abroad to elude the authorities, using five different aliases and a number of expertly forged passports.

Even the FBI’s Deputy Director William Sullivan said he found it difficult to believe that Ray could have carried out these travels without receiving some help.

“Frankly”, Sullivan said, “Ray was so stupid that I don’t think he could have robbed a five-and-ten-cent store. Someone, I feel sure, must have taught Ray how to get a false Canadian passport, how to get out of the country and how to travel to Europe because he could never have managed it alone. And he must also have had help paying for the passports, the airline tickets and all those other expensive items”.

Eventually Ray was arrested in London on June 8th, 1968, and he was put on trial in March, 1969, for the murder of King. Percy Foreman, a high-profile southern lawyer with very close links to the FBI, was appointed by the authorities ostensibly to defend Ray but actually to intimidate and trick him into pleading guilty to a crime he never committed.

Ray told Foreman he was just a patsy and hadn’t really killed King and that he didn’t want to plead guilty. But Foreman told Ray he would go straight to the electric chair and that his father and brother would be thrown in jail unless he pleaded guilty, so Ray very grudgingly agreed to let Foreman enter a guilty plea.

When Ray realized later he had been duped by Foreman, he tried to withdraw his guilty plea and get a new trial. Indeed, for the remaining 29 years of his life, Ray repeatedly filed appeals for a new trial -- but, not surprisingly, the authorities always rejected those appeals even though there were obviously ample grounds for granting Ray a new, honest trial.

Sadly, Ray died in prison at the age of 69 on April 23rd, 1998, and, as King’s widow, Coretta Scott King, observed at that time: “Now America will never have the benefit of Mr. Ray’s trial, which would undoubtedly have produced many new revelations about the assassination of Martin Luther King.”

For more details about how James Earl Ray was manipulated by the authorities and used as a patsy in the Martin Luther King murder, see: [Dead Wrong](#) by Richard Belzer and David Wayne and [American Conspiracies](#) by Jesse Ventura and Dick Russell.

• ***There is compelling evidence that Martin Luther King was actually killed, not by James Earl Ray as officially claimed, but by a crack sharpshooter and veteran member of the Memphis police force by the name of Earl Clark following a number of planning sessions for the murder that were held at Jim’s Grill in Memphis and were coordinated by a racist right-wing bar owner named Loyd Jowers.***

It was not until 1993 -- twenty-five years after Martin Luther King was killed -- that the truth about what happened in Memphis that night finally came to light when a local bar owner and right-wing political activist, Loyd Jowers, confessed that he had conspired with some other businessmen and members of the Memphis police force to have King assassinated.

Like so many other southerners of his generation, Jowers was a mind-boggling jumble of contradictions. While he was a notorious racist rabble-rouser, he also considered himself a devout Christian and was always the first to show up for church services every Sunday.

Indeed, it was because of his very strong, if strangely paradoxical, religious beliefs that Jowers decided to spill the beans about the King assassination as he approached the end of his life. Jowers said he feared God might not let him into heaven if he died without confessing his involvement in the murder of King.

According to Jowers, his bar, a place called Jim’s Grill, served as a planning and coordination centre for the King murder. He said he and a number of other passionately anti-King zealots met secretly at this bar several times to work out the best way to kill King when he came to Memphis.

Spurring this group on behind the scenes was a well-heeled notorious right-wing Memphis businessman named Frank Liberto, who had extensive ties to the underworld as well as to the FBI and CIA. According to Jowers, Liberto secretly offered \$100,000 to anyone who succeeded in assassinating King.

The key member of the Jim’s Grill conspiracy was a long-time member of the Memphis police, Lieutenant Earl Clark, who had won a number of rifle-shooting competitions and was considered by far the best sharpshooter on the Memphis force.

On the night King was killed, Jowers said he didn’t actually witness Clark fire the fatal shot, but he said immediately after the shooting Clark came to the back door of his bar and literally handed him “a smoking gun” -- the rifle that had apparently been used to kill King.

Jowers said he disassembled the rifle, wrapped it up and gave it the next morning to a pre-arranged contact named Raul. This mysterious Raul appears to have also played a key role in manipulating the patsy James Earl Ray.

Not surprisingly, Earl Clark steadfastly denied having played any part in the King murder right up to his death in 1987. But he was never able to offer any credible explanation as to why he had excused himself from work that night or where he was at the time of the murder.

The only person who claimed she saw Clark that evening was his wife and the so-called “alibi” she provided had no credibility at all since she was known to be just as much of a racist as her husband and she hated King just as virulently as he did.

It appears Clark fired the shot that killed King from a clump of thick shrubbery not far from the Lorraine Motel. This was the optimum location from which to carry out the murder since it provided the sniper with both an easy clear-cut shot at King and ample cover while he carried out the operation and it was also just a short distance from the back door of Jim’s Grill.

It should be noted that on the night of the murder Martin Luther King’s chief aide, Andrew Young, who was standing beside King on the balcony when the shot was fired, said he and some others believed the bullet might have been fired from those bushes rather than the bathroom window of the rooming house.

Young also said he and everyone else in the King entourage were shocked when they woke up the next morning and discovered that all of the shrubbery near the Lorraine Motel had been cut down and removed.

The chief groundskeeper for the area around the Lorraine Motel, a man named Maynard Stiles, later testified he and

his crew received instructions from senior officials of the Memphis police department to cut down all the shrubbery near the motel at the crack of dawn on the morning after the murder.

In any event, Loyd Jowers died on May 28th, 2000, apparently satisfied, at least in his own strange mind, that he had finally made peace with God despite having played a pivotal role in one of the most horrific and tragic murders in modern history.

But to fully understand what happened on April 4th, 1968, it is essential to understand clearly the series of “close connections” that extended all the way from FBI headquarters in Washington to that notorious clump of shrubbery near the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover was closely connected to Memphis police czar Frank Holloman, who was closely connected to the passionately anti-King racketeer and businessman Frank Liberto, who was closely connected to the racist Memphis bar owner Loyd Jowers, who was closely connected to the equally racist Memphis police sharpshooter Earl Clark, who was closely connected to a high-powered rifle that was used to kill Dr. Martin Luther King.

For more details about the Jim’s Grill conspiracy and the roles played by Loyd Jowers and Earl Clark in the murder of Martin Luther King, see: [April 4th, 1968: Martin Luther King Jr’s Death and How It Changed America](#) by Michael Eric Dyson, [Dead Wrong](#) by Richard Belzer and David Wayne, and an article entitled “James Earl Ray Did Not Kill MLK” by Lisa Pease in [The Assassinations](#).

• ***Unlike the JFK and RFK murder cases in which there were never honest trials or judicial inquiries, there was an honest trial related to the assassination of Martin Luther King -- though it was initiated by King’s family, not the government. In that trial in 1999 a jury consisting of six blacks and six whites unanimously decided King was murdered by a conspiracy that involved a number of agencies of the U.S. government. Unfortunately, however, few people are aware of that decision or even that the trial occurred since it received practically no coverage in the mainstream media.***

One of the most dramatic face-to-face meetings in modern history occurred on March 27th, 1997, at the Lois DeBerry Special Needs Facility in Tennessee when Martin Luther King’s son Dexter met with King’s alleged killer James Earl Ray.

Dexter King looked Ray straight in the eye and asked: “Did you kill my father?” Ray answered in a firm voice: “No, I didn’t.” And Dexter King said: “I believe you and my family believes you.”

Indeed, the entire King family had been convinced from the very beginning that James Earl Ray wasn’t the real assassin, so they supported him in all of his appeals for a new trial. But when it became clear that the authorities were never going to allow a new, honest trial to take place, in 1999 the King family filed a wrongful death lawsuit in the Tennessee Circuit Court: “King family vs. Loyd Jowers and other unknown co-conspirators.”

For more than a month a jury consisting of six blacks and six whites sat in Memphis for this trial, at which more than 70 witnesses testified and a massive amount of evidence was presented.

The authorities, determined to keep the lid on Pandora’s Box, appointed a veteran southern judge by the name of Joseph B. Brown to preside over this civil trial, believing that he was someone who could be easily manipulated and that he would look the other way and go along with the official lies and cover-up.

But they made a huge miscalculation. Instead of cowering like a frightened sheep as the authorities had expected, Brown roared like an angry lion. He insisted that all the relevant evidence be brought to light, including the stunning revelations by Loyd Jowers, which we looked at earlier.

After carefully considering all of the ballistics evidence in the case, one morning Judge Brown dramatically held up the rifle belonging to James Earl Ray in the courtroom and told the jury: “In my opinion, this is not the rifle that was used to kill Dr. Martin Luther King.”

At that point the powers that be decided they had had enough of Joe Brown and they intervened to have him removed as the presiding judge, calling him “biased”.

Brown brilliantly retorted: “I am biased. I am biased in favour of the truth.”

Joe Brown was, quite rightly, unapologetic about the way he had conducted proceedings in the trial, declaring: “It is clear to any decent reasonable person that a proper criminal investigation is required in this case. Thirty years ago a man who was trying to speak about truth and the conscience of America was slain. My job as a judge is nowhere near as important as a man’s life, and I don’t give a damn if I risk that job by speaking out. Anybody who doesn’t like that can go to hell.”

Not surprisingly, the *New York Times* and some of the other pathetic lackeys in the mainstream media criticized Brown’s remarks, calling them “crude and unbecoming of a U.S. judge.” Actually, however, I think Brown’s comments were one of the most eloquent and magnificent statements ever made by an American judge.

Indeed, in the sordid saga of the Martin Luther King murder, Brown is one of the very few people who emerges in a positive light. Joe Brown turned out to be one of those old-fashioned kind of judges who still believes that a courtroom is a place where one should be able to find honesty and justice. Everyone who values the truth is deeply indebted to him.

In any event, Brown was replaced as the presiding judge by a man named James E. Swearngen who seemed to be basically honest and well-intentioned but was also quite weak.

Nonetheless, the jury was clearly unfazed by the change of judges and on December 8th, 1999 -- almost 32 years after King was murdered -- the jury reached a unanimous verdict that Martin Luther King had been killed by “a conspiracy that included some governmental agencies.”

As King’s widow, Coretta Scott King, observed: “The jury was clearly convinced by the extensive evidence that was presented during the trial that, in addition to Loyd Jowers, the Mafia, local, state and federal government agencies were deeply involved in the assassination of my husband. The jury also affirmed overwhelming evidence that identified someone else, not James Earl Ray, as the shooter, and that Mr. Ray was set up to take the blame.”

The verdict by the jury in the King trial was, as Richard Belzer and David Wayne note in their book [Dead Wrong](#), “one of the most important in the entire judicial history of the United States.” Unfortunately, however, to this day very few Americans know anything about it or are even aware that the King trial took place because there was practically no news coverage in the United States.

The King trial was almost totally “blackened out” of the mainstream media in North America even though it received quite extensive coverage in Europe and some other parts of the world.

Indeed, a Portuguese journalist who covered the King trial, Barbara Reis, summed up the situation well when she said: “This is a terribly sad commentary on the U.S. media. They called O. J. Simpson’s trial the trial of the century. Then they called Bill Clinton’s trial the trial of the century. But this really was one of the most important trials of the century and there were hardly any U.S. journalists here to cover it.”

One of America’s foremost academic experts on the relationship between the mainstream media and the U.S. corporate power structure, Professor William Schaap, says: “The fact there was virtually no media coverage of the historic King trial in 1999 shows how much governmental control of the media there is in the United States.”

The lawyer who represented the King family at the civil trial, William Francis Pepper, did an excellent job and, in my opinion, the two best books that have come out to date about the King assassination have both been written by Pepper: [Orders to Kill: The Truth Behind the Murder of Martin Luther King](#) and [An Act of State: The Execution of Martin Luther King](#).

In these books Pepper not only examines the nitty-gritty details of the case but also explains clearly why King was killed and puts the assassination in a proper historical perspective.

“When Martin Luther King rallied people to oppose the Vietnam war,” Pepper notes, “he was threatening the bottom lines of some of the largest defence contractors in the U.S. This was about money. He was threatening the weapons industry, the hardware and the armaments industries that would all lose if the war ended. Also King’s Poor People’s campaign caused great consternation in the circles of power when he talked about a redistribution of wealth.”

Anyone seriously interested in learning about the King trial should also read three excellent articles by James Di Eugenio in [The Assassinations](#): “Memphis vs. Joe Brown: The Struggle for a New Trial”, “Murder in Memphis Again” and “Fatal Justice: The Death of James Earl Ray.”

Sadly, it must be noted that, as with the JFK and RFK murders, the authorities and their media mouthpieces waged a massive disinformation campaign to try to cover up the truth about what happened in Memphis.

Personally, I found it especially sickening that the once proud and respected *Washington Post* completely disgraced itself by saying that no one should pay any attention to those questioning the official version of the King assassination because “people who believe in a King conspiracy are mad -- they are the same kind of people who insist that Adolf Hitler was unfairly accused of genocide”.

The most outrageously phony of the King assassination whitewash books is [Killing the Dream](#) by Gerald Posner -- yes, that’s right, the same Posner who, as we noted earlier, also played a leading role in the cover-up campaigns related to the JFK and RFK murders.

People should also keep a wary eye out for a number of other whitewash books related to the King murder, including: [He Slew the Dreamer](#) by William Bradford Huie, [The Strange Case of James Earl Ray](#) by Clay Blair and [The Making of an Assassin](#) by George McMillan.

In ending our look at the King assassination, it is only fitting that we should give the last word to Martin Luther King himself. Indeed, it immediately becomes clear why King posed such a serious threat to the powerful forces that ruled America when we travel back in time to the evening of April 4th, 1967 -- exactly one year before King was killed -- and listen to the impassioned speech that he delivered that night at the Riverside Church in New York City.

“The madness of this war in Vietnam,” King said, “must stop and it must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home, and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world since the whole world stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as one who loves America and who believes that just as the great initiative in this war is ours, the initiative to stop it must also be ours.”

It is important to note that the JFK murder and cover-up has been used as a template not only for the assassinations of Bobby Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King but also for many other acts of skulduggery, including the phony U.S.-orchestrated “terrorist attacks” of September 11th, 2001. We presented a detailed account of the 9/11 fraud in our article, “9/11: The ‘Big Magic Trick’ Ten Years Later”, which was published in the *Victoria Street Newz* editions of September, October and November, 2011, and which is available online in the archives at RelativeNewz.ca.

As we conclude our look at the assassination of John Kennedy and its legacy, some might ask why we should still care about what happened on that long-ago autumn day in Dallas, Texas. John Kennedy after all was certainly no angel. He and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev brought the world to the brink of a nuclear holocaust in the fall of 1962 and in his personal life JFK was a notorious philanderer.

But to focus on Kennedy’s sexual peccadilloes, as many have done, is to totally miss the most important point about his short but remarkable presidency: the amazing transformation he underwent during his final thirteen months in office from a committed cold warrior to an impassioned peace advocate.

Indeed, even one of JFK’s chief adversaries, Cuba’s Fidel Castro, told a delegation of American visitors in 1978 that he considered Kennedy “a courageous, outstanding man” who was trying to move the United States toward peace with Cuba and the rest of the world in the months before he was murdered. As Castro noted, despite all of Kennedy’s faults, the world would likely have been a much different and much better place had he lived longer.

But while it is important, of course, to set the historical record straight and also to understand how the JFK murder and cover-up has been used over the years as a template for other government-sponsored assassinations and frauds, for me -- and I think many others -- the main reason why the JFK murder still matters so much is a lot more personal. It is simply the fact that the killing of John Kennedy was by far the most important political event of my lifetime and I don’t want to go to my grave without knowing as much of the truth as I can possibly find out about the assassination.

That is why I am so grateful to all the wonderfully brave and honourable people in the United States and elsewhere who have risked their lives -- and in some cases lost them -- over the past fifty years while telling, or trying to discover, the truth about the JFK murder. Indeed, I think it is very important to recognize that while the JFK assassination is a horrifying story about killing, lying and deceiving on a monumental scale, it is also an inspiring story about pursuing the truth -- regardless of the consequences.

Though many powerful politicians, journalists, academics and judges behaved in a sordid and disgraceful manner, many “ordinary” people from all walks of life showed extraordinary courage and integrity by insisting on telling or pursuing the truth.

Unfortunately, it is highly unlikely the U.S. authorities will ever publicly acknowledge the truth about the assassinations of John Kennedy, Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King or about 9/11 -- at least not unless there is a full-blown revolution in the country. Sadly, lies have now become, in effect, the glue that holds the present American political system together.

Indeed, the powers that be in America have lied so many times about so many things, and so much blood has been shed as a result of their lies, that they are now in the same position in which Macbeth found himself when he famously lamented: “I am in blood stepp’d in so far that, should I wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o’er.”

Like the blood staining Macbeth’s hands, the blood staining the past fifty years of American history can never be expunged merely by the passage of time, for whether an event occurred five minutes ago or 5,000 years ago, the truth about what happened always matters.

And it simply isn’t possible to fully understand what has been happening in our world over the past fifty years without knowing the truth about what really happened in the United States on two fateful days: November 22nd, 1963, and September 11th, 2001.

But, above all, I think what is most important to remember when we look at the story of what really happened on those two tragic and pivotal days in American history is that while it is a story of terrible darkness, it is also a story of many bright candles burning bravely in that darkness.

Gordon Pollard is a native of Victoria, has a MA in History from Columbia University in New York City and a BA in History and English from the University of Victoria. After working for 10 years as a journalist in B.C., Alberta, and Ontario, Gordon spent 20 years teaching English and History in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka.



Statement of Solidarity with the Mi'kmaq Warriors

by Zig Zag

Since the spring of 2013, the Mi'kmaq, along with Native and non-Native allies, have been resisting exploratory testing by SWN Resources Canada in New Brunswick. SWN, a Houston, Texas-based company, is searching for deposits of natural gas in shale rock formations. If they are successful and find significant deposits, they will then attempt to extract this gas using the process of fracking.

Fracking is a highly destructive method of extracting natural gas (as well as oil) from shale rock formations. It involves drilling down into the shale rock and injecting vast amounts of water mixed with hundreds of toxic chemicals. This fractures the shale rock and releases the gas, which is then brought to the surface for processing.

Fracking contaminates water with toxic chemicals, and also leads to the depletion of water tables. The process itself is linked to an increase in earthquakes in areas where it is practised. The processing of shale gas causes respiratory problems, skin rashes, nausea, and other negative health effects. For all these reasons, fracking is today the focus of resistance in countries around the world by communities determined to protect their land and water.

Throughout the summer, the Mi'kmaq protested SWN's activities, and the RCMP arrested approximately 20 people. Then, in the early fall, the Mi'kmaq established a blockade of a parking compound used by SWN, near Rexton, New Brunswick.

On October 17, 2013, over 100 RCMP raided the blockade camp, including a tactical troop (riot control cops) and Emergency Response Teams (ERT, armed tactical units). They used pepper spray and less-lethal weaponry to clear the blockade, arresting 40 people in the process. In response to the raid, Mi'kmaq [allegedly] threw Molotov cocktails at police, and later set fire to six RCMP vehicles, completely destroying them. Four warriors remain in jail to this day (Dec 2, 2013).

The anti-fracking struggle currently being waged by the Mi'kmaq is occurring at an historically important time in Canada. It follows on the mass mobilization of Indigenous peoples across the country who took part in Idle No More rallies and "flashmobs," etc. It is also occurring as thousands of Natives in 'BC' have expressed their opposition to oil and gas pipelines and tankers. And all this is occurring as Canada seeks to position itself as a new "petro-state" based on the extraction of gas and oil, especially from the Tar Sands in northern Alberta. In this context, the struggle of the Mi'kmaq is of critical importance.

Through their determined resistance, the Mi'kmaq have revealed the true nature of the colonial regime as one ultimately based on force. Only by maintaining a vast system of control can the state impose its will, in the interests of the corporate elite. But the Mi'kmaq have shown that the state is not all-powerful, nor are its police forces, and that they can be resisted.

Everyday that SWN Resources Canada isn't out doing exploratory testing, they claim, costs them some \$54,000. Add to this the cost of SWN vehicles damaged or machinery set on fire, along with the sabotage of over 1,000 geo-phone tracking devices and miles of cables, and one can see how much damage the Mi'kmaq and their allies have inflicted despite substantial deployments of police and security (further draining the enemy's treasury of tens of thousands of dollars).

For those Natives in BC who believe that more rallies and petitions will be sufficient in stopping over seven proposed pipelines from crossing their territories and hundreds of tankers from travelling the coast, the Mi'kmaq are showing us that the struggle must be more than a war of words.

The Mi'kmaq are also showing us that a real Indigenous grassroots resistance involves community mobilization and self-organization, outside of the Indian Act band councils. The blockades and confrontations are not the work of the Elsipogtog band council, but of grassroots Mi'kmaq and their allies.

As Canada seeks to establish itself as a global petro-state, it must maintain control over Indigenous peoples who constitute a potential threat to all types of infrastructure and extractive industries, from railways and highways to pipelines and power lines, from mines to oil and gas facilities. This is why the Mi'kmaq warriors have been especially targeted with repressive actions by the RCMP.

The state fears warriors because they have the potential to radicalize movements, because they will use direct action, and because they cannot be bought off or otherwise co-opted. For these reasons, we must stand in solidarity with not only the Mi'kmaq, but also with the Mi'kmaq Warrior Society, who provide a living example of what a warrior is and the necessity of maintaining a warrior culture in order to defend our people & territories.

For information, updates, and analysis:
WarriorPublications.wordpress.com,
ReclaimTurtleIsland.com.

This article was originally published at Warrior Publications (<http://lwp.me/p1q7j9-MF>), is reprinted with permission, and has been edited for space considerations.

editor's note: On December 6th APTN (Aboriginal Peoples' Television Network - APTN.ca) reported that SWN Resources told Elsipogtog War Chief John Levi that they are ending their exploration work, but will return in 2015.



Mainstream Media Confusion

by Jennifer Hastie

On Friday, November 29, 2013, I was reading the business section of the *Victoria Times Colonist*. Page 3 reported that eight aboriginal bands near Kamloops will get a revenue-sharing partnership with the provincial government. The Highland Valley Copper mine, owned by Teck, lies within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux tribes. "...The provincial government has met its legal obligations to consult and accommodate Native Bands regarding development of this metal mine," said the article. The result has been that three tax-sharing deals between the Nlaka'pamux and the government have been reached.

"Oh, good," said I to myself. However, on page 7 of the same section of the newspaper that day, an (apparently) negative report was given by the Fraser Institute. As the negative information got reported first in this article concerning the Fraser Institute, a very conservative organization, I reacted initially with disgust. The article started by saying, "1st Nations may be a major hurdle for over 600 major resource projects planned over the next decade."

Most of us in this busy world would have quit reading the article at that point. However, the end of the article reported that the Fraser Institute made five recommendations for "fixing the relationship between business and First Nations, including better communication and transparency from the outset, and an understanding of the communities involved."

I am very tired of mainstream media's choice to report primarily negative information or. I have come to realize that many in the western world have come to enjoy the negative stories rather than positive stories.

I say to myself cynically: "...Well, at least the coastal 1st Nations' peoples were not subjected to merely 3 days notice to get out of their houses and leave their traditional territory and gravesites, as the Cheslatta Village was required to do, back in 1952 when the Kemano Dam was about to flood the area."

I also remind myself that in eastern Canada, some people, for example, a doctor from Red Lake, Ontario, whom I sat beside during a recent airplane trip, commented: "...Oh we don't have any Indians up in our area where I practice medicine." "Oh?" I said (to myself), what a great way to avoid responsibility for treating the 1st Nations people respectfully.

What is wrong with us today? Why do we enjoy negative issues? Mainstream media needs to take responsibility for helping to make society better by reporting in a more balanced way. Perhaps then there would be less prejudice for 1st Nations' peoples to contend with.

I end this article on a positive note: We learned from the *Times Colonist* on August 16, 2013, that Haida 1st Nations have erected a new totem pole in their southern territory. The pole took more than a year to erect. It was created to celebrate the 20th anniversary of an agreement between the Haida Nation and our Federal government which has allowed both groups to co-manage and protect the region. The native artist was a University of Victoria graduate, Jaalen Edenshaw, helped by his brother and cousin.

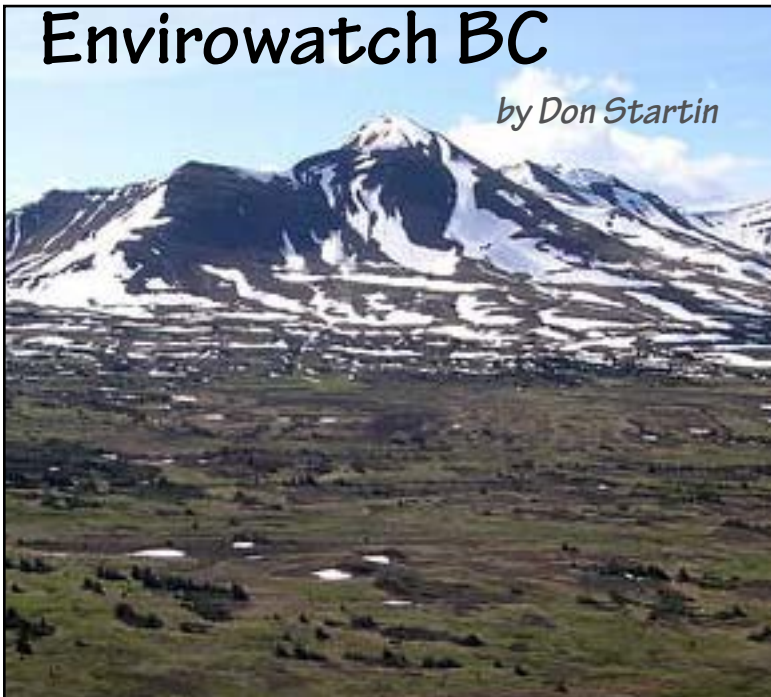
In the same *Times Colonist* edition last August, a young journalist reported the closing of Raft Cove from a (potentially) huge influx of 2000 campers from the "World Rainbow Gathering." In no way was a small campsite in this isolated territory, with only 2 pit toilets, able to accommodate 2000 people. The police, the province, non-native people living nearby and the 1st Nation were able to reach a decision quickly and by consensus not to allow this happening to take place. Such action from all parties was excellent, a "civilized way" of handling the problem. A plus to the story: when the organizers of the World Rainbow gathering learned why the decision was made, they were very respectful and saw why such a decision was necessary.

Hopefully we ARE becoming more aware of 1st Nations peoples' right to be involved in important decisions concerning their traditional lands. After all, they know these lands much better than the provincial government does.

Jen Hastie grew up beside the Tseshah Reserve in Port Alberni. During her career as a social worker she was employed by the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council in the Usma program. Today she keeps in touch with many friends from the Port Alberni area.

Envirowatch BC

by Don Startin



I hear that 1,500 written submissions were made to the federal/provincial environmental assessment panel on the Site C Dam before deadline on Monday 25 Nov 13.

Let's hope they were mostly anti because, as reported by *The Canadian Press* in the *Times Colonist*, supporters of the dam are signing up in large numbers to present at the oral hearings which begin on 9 Dec 13. It will be interesting to see what the panel says and what the people opposed to the dam will do if it gets a green light.

Up in the Sacred Headwaters there is news of a new provincial government move. Wily Christy Clark has set up the Klappan Initiative which purports to negotiate with the Tahltan First Nation, on a nation to nation basis, to resolve issues around Mount Klappan, which is where the proposed Arctos Anthracite Disaster is under environmental assessment at this time. Despite the fact that the initiative was announced on 11 Sep 13 I never heard about it until late November when phoning contacts in Klabona. Nothing in the T.C., nothing on the C.B.C.!! We are ill served by our so called media, but of this more in a future article.

The Tahltan negotiating position is stated by Annita McPhee who is president of the Tahltan Central Council:

"This is a vital step towards protecting an area that is vital for all Tahltan people and all British Columbians. [The] Tahltan have been in the forefront of northwest B.C.'s economic boom, but for years have opposed developments on Mount Klappan. The area is simply too important. It has been vital for hunting for thousands of years, supports three salmon bearing rivers, and is essential to Tahltan culture. This agreement starts to put in place the plans to protect our land and culture for good."

The "Lieberal" government of B.C.'s position, as stated by Ms Polak, Minister of the Environment is:

"This is a major step in the long term planning of the Klappan. The Province is committed to working with the Tahltan on that process, finding solutions that honour the places that are important to First Nations, respect the interests of third parties, and provide economic benefits to all British Columbians within a sound environmental framework."

The government's position can only be described as oxymoronic. They want to look after Fortune Minerals, who want to put a vast open pit coalmine near the headwaters of the Nass, Stikine, and Skeena Rivers, and ship coal out by rail for delivery to North Korea thus creating 800 jobs at the expense of producing massive amounts of greenhouse gases, and possibly damaging our three finest salmon streams, one of which we share with Alaska, not to mention ruining a virtually pristine traditional hunting ground. They have also weaseled in the Red Chris Mine which will gravely affect the hunting, and rivers to the South.

Really, the only solution is for the settlers, and that's us WASPS, to pack up our marbles aka mining and road building machinery, helicopters etc and leave the Tahltan in peace to run Klabona their way like the Haidas do on Haida Gwaii.

We at *Street Newz* are far away from Klabona. We are bound to make some errors in our reporting. Do, please write and correct us if we have. We welcome with open arms letters and articles from folks who know the country. We know our hearts are in the right place, even if our pens stray occasionally.

In future articles I want to tell you about a chap called Ishi. He has helped me understand the First Nations, how the media let us down over the Site C Dam, and another unwanted mine near Iskut.

Don Startin is an activist and gardener, an ex-military man who currently lives a life of simplicity with his wife in Victoria, B.C. Photo: Mount Klappan.

Local Mainstream Media Accused of Stalking Deer

by Jordan Reichert

In a recent article by the *Times Colonist*, deer advocates who had gathered in Oak Bay to voice their opposition to the cull proposed by Oak Bay municipal council were accused of 'stalking' the house of Oak Bay mayor Nils Jensen.

What actually had happened was that the group gathered in front of the Oak Bay municipal hall and moved up the road throughout the demonstration. Eventually, because of the closeness of the mayor's house to the event it was decided to stop by, just to let him know what was going on. However, he was not home at this time.

If you look up the word 'stalking' in most dictionaries you will find a definition akin to that found on Wikipedia: "Stalking is unwanted or obsessive attention by an individual or group towards another person." It generally implies continued or ongoing harassment or intimidation of some kind, which in the case of yesterday's demonstration was anything but.

However, it appears that many local media organizations have some of their own 'stalking' tendencies that they may be projecting onto the actions of others.

Speaking with several deer in Oak Bay today *The Raging Kucing* was able to conclude that the deer in this community feel more than a little uncomfortable with all the negative headlines around their presence in the community.

"I feel like there are a lot of reporters that come around and take pictures of us and write stories about us that really don't care about what is happening. They are more interested in making the headlines and, you know, when our lives are at stake that seems really disrespectful and kind of creepy."

Speaking with one Oak Bay buck whose antlers had become entangled in black netting, quite possibly due to an assault, he responded "I was really embarrassed. My picture everywhere and I couldn't even see where I was going, that didn't help at all."

When asked how he felt about the proposed cull he responded with some surprise.

"No one has even talked to us about it! They want to kill us, and they are calling it euthanizing! Do they even know what that means! I'm not in pain or suffering! It seems to me they are the sick ones."

Clearly it is time that the mainstream media bucked the trend of sensationalizing news about other animals and the groups defending them, and stuck to the facts. Furthermore, let's 'cull' misrepresentative language about the killing of deer from our discourse and call it what it is, systematic murder.

Jordan founded The Raging Kucing because animals can't speak for themselves. Check it out at TheRagingKucing.com. Photo from Nancy Raycroft.



A mystical, spiritual, gratifying, satisfying and beautiful time of year felt by many. A holy and joyous celebration initiating the birth of the mighty joyous prince of peace and saviour of the world. Jesus Christ.

It takes on many aspects and different facets of human life. Church choirs are singing while the priest is anticipating a collection that is ringing. The look of joy, wonderment, and love with grandmother, grandfather, little children, orphans and poor people that overcomes their spirit and face. The joy and love of that special gift that gives them that lift. The love that is unconditional that brings families and strangers together. And the love that prevails over all the earth.

People want gifts. The polar bear wants a life. While in the city the falling snow and ice frame the skyline and make it oh so pretty like a postcard. And the wind is blowing and everyone is going to the nearest city mall from afar. The lineups and the frowns upon the people as they search for that special gift.

Christmas!

by Mark Idczak



As some of the reporters for the media snap pictures of poor people at dinners hoping for a promotion as they feed the public's need for sympathy and crocodile tears for this lot.

Out on the street the unwanted stress that seems the ultimate at this time is felt. The traffic rages, people on the street yelling. The police on the beat hauling in some of the folk that are really smelling. And the media in the form of the small town gazette or TV is really telling. The real gifts of Christmas - Joy, Love and Peace, Jesus - should be felt all over the world. No matter the occasion.

I love Christmas! Let us be the gift. May everyone have peace forevermore!

Mark Idczak is a perpetual optimist and proud member of the Downtown Story Collective. Here, he's autographing his work published in the Chapbook produced for their first Gala event.

BC Ferries

by Jim Erkiletian

So BC Ferries has decided one of the few benefits they offer seniors will be curtailed.

Which means people like me on fixed income may only be able to travel once a month. Take from the seniors and other customers, rather than the bloated fat cats who are sinking the system from the top.

We should dump the executives, starting with the CEO who gets 4 times what the Washington State Ferries CEO gets for doing the same job, only doing it worse. Fire one desk jockey each day until the ferries actually stop running. Then hire that guy back.

To claim they are freezing bonuses while increasing the salaries the same amount as the bonuses is disgusting. To do it on the backs of senior ferry riders is despicable.

"When a man has done what he considers to be his duty to his people and his country, he can rest in peace. Nelson Mandela"

crisis in Boom Town (or, the real face of the New Recession)

by j fisher

you could fall in love with this city at a quarter to 5 in the am on a cold December morning. dark, bleak and silent, it is the only remaining time of the day that permits a peek at the way this city used to be, at around 8 at night, just 10 short years ago (nothing short about them..). it stands to remind one that this is still a young, provincial city, where the streets roll up and don't unroll too much before the coming of the sun (apologies to the bakers, the pigs, the cabbies and the newspaper hacks). i was wandering these same streets back when the boom was just a wet towel hung over tomorrow's chair, and any job was a job worth having. it's all gone over and become something to forget, but it's still awful gorgeous at a quarter to 5...

so i'm walking and i have the downtown core to myself. almost. every 5 minutes another person asks me for change, (i haven't a pot to piss in) for a smoke (i haven't smoked in the day-time for years), some even try to sell me coupons, but to no avail. this can happen in broad daylight here, the main difference being the reaction i get for my denials. every single one is pleasant, contrite, sorry they bothered me. i guess this early they haven't been subjected to the onslaught on personal abuse they are guaranteed to receive.

were there this many broke and broken people ten years ago? was i too self-involved to notice?

20 minutes of pure frozen hustle and i make the temp agency offices. 5 minutes after 5 and i'm 20th in line. (in the old days, i'd be here alone for at least an hour). i sign in, fill the forms and hide in my crosswords. the people are pouring in. twenty turns to thirty, thirty to forty. the room grows dank with morning breath and stale coffee. the stale coffee starts to work and the fidgeting begins. so do the bathroom runs (the bathroom here shares the same four walls as the waiting room, so the odor soon becomes unbearable), the return trips to the coffee machine, the noise levels leap. my arm is bashed, i'm hit up for smokes, my bag is repeatedly kicked, there is no escape from the din. i'm pulled up out of my salvation and forced to address the obvious around me.

when i was a regular temp years ago, the crowd was almost always thin and always in rougher condition than i was. no matter my spot in line, i always got work. my apparent sobriety (which, often, was just thinly disguised functional alcoholism) and clean clothing guaranteed it. i suppose my youth didn't hurt my chances either. one real look around the room told me things here had changed as much as the streets i just came in on.

the overwhelming majority of the people sharing that room with me were clean cut, middle aged blue collar Joes, fully sober and equipped for the day's labours (visi-vests, hard-hats, safety boots, cell phones, etc). most fingered resume files while they waited for their names to be called. some phoned home to tell partners that there may be no work again today. the only dirt these folks had on was the residuals of dry-wall dust or engine grease from the previous day's work. this was not the image most Calgarians have of the temp labour pool.

i've sat without work for weeks now, and i never thought i'd be down here, hustling for day labour again. i guess none of these people did. like me, they've washed out thru the boom grate as the weather goes foul and the outdoor jobs dry up. this is the real face of the recession. it's not about who can afford lattes at break, or SUV's when the lease runs out. it's about looking these people in the face, at 8 am, when they've sat for three hours, and telling them there'll be no work again today.

at least i can write about it to dull the hunger and the fear that this day has wrought upon me.

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

Nelson Mandela

Remembering Ken Bath

by Jennifer Hastie

As January will be drawing to a close shortly, I am reminded about the passing of Ken Bath, one of the *Street Newz* vendors. Ken died from cancer on January 29, 2013. His celebration of life was conducted on February 5, 2013, by Reverend Al at Our Place.

Judging from the numbers of people who came out for Ken's service, there were many others affected by his wisdom, charm, sense of humour, and commitment to *Street Newz*. In spite of Ken's past and estrangement from his family, a number of relatives attended this service along with various people from the *Street Newz* group and the low/no income community.

I always respected Ken for his ability to be so open in explaining how he came to be so impoverished. He accepted his lot in life - the marginal living conditions, the lack of money for any frills in life, and in the end, for his health. I learned much about his ability to "stick with it" when many people would just give up on trying to help themselves.

I still think about his wisdom today. His favourite saying to me was: "shit happens, Jen." I know that he gave others wisdom, too. I will miss him, but he lives on in my memory and, I am sure, in the memory of many others.



My welfare food challenge

by Seth Klein

Well, I've made it to the end of my week eating only what I could buy for \$26. But eating the same thing for breakfast, lunch and dinner for seven days is no damn fun. I can't wait to eat something different and fresh.

Did a final weigh-in this morning. I lost 4-5 lbs. this week. And while I had enough quantity of food to make it through the week, I was often hungry between meals.

Some final summary thoughts on this experience:

- A food allowance of \$26 is insufficient to eat a healthy diet. The food one can afford is not fresh, lacks a mix of protein and nutrients, and is heavy on carbs that leave one feeling hungry shortly after a meal.

- The smallest unexpected cost throws your budget out the window.

- Living this way, one thinks about food all the time, and planning meals is a perpetual task. Eating out is out of the question. You are housebound.

- If you don't have access to a good kitchen, you're hooped.

- Living this way is stressful, bad for your health, and filled with small but regular indignities.

We need to raise welfare rates!

Among the key findings of our 2008 study that followed 60 people on assistance: living this way forces people to make harmful choices; the inadequacy of welfare rates leads many women to remain in abusive relationships for financial reasons, and compels many to resort to criminal activity. And it means people spend inordinate time in survival mode, ironically at the cost of searching for work (which is what the government says people are

supposed to be doing). Making ends meet on a welfare budget requires all manner of creative and desperate measures.

Rates have been frozen since 2007. That means the real (after-inflation) value of a welfare cheque has lost about 10 per cent since that time. And the cost of food often increases faster than the general inflation rate (CPI). Add to that expected increases in hydro rates, and energy poverty will become more acute (putting additional pressure on each welfare cheque).

The blog diaries of others who have taken the challenge this week also make for very compelling reading. You can find them at welfarefoodchallenge.org.

And you can take action on this issue too. The folks running the Welfare Food Challenge have created a "take action" section of their website, with a few ideas, including a petition calling on the provincial government to raise social assistance rates in B.C.

Now that this week is over, it's up to all of us to help keep this issue alive.

If you'd like to read the rest of my Welfare Food Challenge blog posts (and the many comments), you can find at welfarefoodchallenge.org.

Seth Klein is Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives in BC (www.policyalternatives.ca). This article originally appeared at Rabble.ca and is printed with permission.



Home is a Beautiful Word



This very special project was commissioned by the Belfry Theatre, and playwright / journalist Joel Bernbaum spent over a year interviewing hundreds of people in Victoria about homelessness. Conversations in grade four classrooms, senior citizens' homes, businesses, homeless shelters and on doorsteps have been transcribed and edited into a fascinating play: a portrait of homelessness in our community, in the words of our community. Moving, enlightening, funny and surprising.

Given the scope and nature of this production, we are trying to alleviate any financial barriers that may exist for patrons. We're offering:

- 20 complimentary tickets (for each performance) for people who cannot afford to attend. We will be distributing these tickets throughout the run.
- 50 tickets (for each performance) are 'Pay-What-You-Can' for those who require financial assistance to see the show. These will be available at the door.
- Single tickets are \$25.
- Agencies and organizations that deal directly with homelessness can get a 20% discount on single tickets. Groups of six or more from these organizations can get an additional discount, with each ticket being \$15.

Ticket Information – 250-385-6815, Belfry.bc.ca

Some Food Resources

ALLIANCE CLUB (Victoria Youth Empowerment Society) www.vyes.ca 250-383-3514
533 Yates St. Youth (13-19) only, M-F Dinner 5 pm

ANAWIM COMPANION SOCIETY www.anawimhouse.com 250-382-0283
973 Caledonia Street V8T 1E7, 19+, laundry, showers, meals, clothing, limited housing spaces. Signup at 11 am for lunch M-F; 2 pm for 5 pm dinner Weds & Fris.

BLANSHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE www.blanshardcc.com 250-388-7696
901 Kings Rd. V8T 1W5, Family friendly Thurs lunch @ noon (\$3 adult, \$1 child)

BURNSIDE GORGE COMMUNITY CENTRE www.burnsidegorge.ca 250.388.5251
471 Cecelia Rd. V8T 4T4, Families only dinner Thurs 5 pm. Free or by donation.

CARTS www.cartsvictoria.ca Starts @ Queens Manor, to Centennial Square, ends at Salvation Army. Sundays 4:30-6:30, snacks & hot choc.

FIRST MET CHURCH firstmetvictoria.com 250-388.5188
932 Balmoral, V8T 1A8, Friday before cheque issue dinner @ 5:00 (not in July, Aug, Dec)

FOOD NOT BOMBS www.facebook.com/groups/46722105836 250-383-5144, # 1940
Harris Green (Pandora & Vancouver) Family friendly vegan Sundays, 3:30ish

JAMES BAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CENTRE jamesbaycentre.ca 250-389-1470
140 Oswego St, V8V 2B1 Seniors dinners Tues & Thurs @ 5 pm, Family Friendly Community Dinners Weds, approx. every other month. Purchase Tics in advance.

LIVING EDGE FOOD DISTRIBUTION livingedgecommunity.com 250-383-8915
950 Kings Rd V8G 5T7 Lunch 10:-30-11:30 am Tues, Thurs, Sat; dinner 4:30 Sundays

MUSTARD SEED STREET CHURCH www.mustardseed.ca 250-953-1575
625 Queens St. V8T 1L9 Drive-By Cafe Van (wraps, snacks @ Douglas/Yates) 4th Mondays 6-8 pm; Movie Matinee Sat 4-6 pm; Dinner Fri & Sat @ 7 pm; Family Friendly Dinner 2nd & 3rd Sundays @ 5 pm, Registration required

OUR PLACE ourplacesociety.com 250-388-7112 919 Pandora Ave V8V 3P4. 19+ drop in centre w/computer room, special projects. Open Mon to Fri 7 AM - 5 PM, Sun 11:30-4 pm. M-F Breaky 7-8 AM Lunch 11:30-12:30 Dinner 4-5 PM. Sun Lunch 11:30.

RAINBOW KITCHEN www.rainbowkitchen.ca 250-384-2069
500 Admirals Rd. Esquimalt, V9A 2N4. Lunch M-F @12 pm. Families welcome

ROCK BAY LANDING www.coolaid.org 250-383-1951 535 Ellice St.
50 meals for non-residents Mon & Sat, Tics @ 3:30, Dinner @ 4:00 pm

SALVATION ARMY www.salvationarmycfs.com/index.php/general/34-saarc
525 Johnson St. V8W 1M2 250-384-3396 Family friendly lunch M, W, F, Sun @ 12-12:45. Coffee/snacks Tues 10-11:30, Thurs 1-2:30

SAANICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACE www.saanichneighbourhoodplace.com 250-360-1148
3100 Tillicum Rd. V9A 6T2 Family friendly dinner most Weds @ 5 pm. Register, \$5.

SAINT ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL standrewscathedral.com (250) 388-5571
740 View St. Family friendly Soup Kitchen Breakfast 8-10 am M-F

SAINT PETER'S CHURCH 3939 St. Peter Road. 11 am lunch third Saturday each mth.

SANCTUARY YOUTH CENTRE www.sanctuaryyouth.org 250-385-6255
767 Humboldt V8W 3G6 Dinner closed until further notice

SANDY MERRIMAN HOUSE www.coolaid.org 250-480-1408
809 Burdett Ave, V8W1B3, 19+ Women only lunch Mon-Sun 11:30 -2 pm

TAILGATE GRILL
Wharf St. Whale Wall, Family friendly burgers 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 3 pm

Family Friendly Pancake Breakfast Club

First Saturday: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk Hall, 680 Courtney St, 8:00-9:00 am

Second Saturday: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk Hall, 680 Courtney St, 8:15-9:15 am

Third Saturday: Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church Hall, 1800 Quadra St. 8:30-9:30 am

Fourth Saturday: Central Baptist Church, 833 Pandora, 8:30-9:30 am

Fifth Saturday: BC Ferry Workers' Union at St. Andrew's Kirk Hall, 8:15-9:15 am

Sidney Soup Social Community Lunch

Family friendly, 11:30-1:00 pm; free or by donation, everyone welcome

ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH Tuesdays - 10030 Third St. spparish.com, 250-656-7433

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH Wednesdays - 9691 Fourth St.

ST. ELIZABETH'S CHURCH Thursdays - 10030 Third St. spparish.com, 250-656-7433

PEACE LUTHERAN Saturdays - 2295 Weiler Ave peacesidney.ca, 250-656-2721

Salt Spring Community Brunch

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd. Brunch Tuesdays 9:30-noon, everyone welcome

Meals in Sooke

SOOKE BAPTIST CHURCH sookebaptist.com 250-642-3424
7110 West Coast Rd., V9Z 0S1 Mon & Wed: Breakfast 7:30-9 am

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH holytrinitysookebc.org 250-642-3172
1952 Murray Rd, V9Z 1H5 Fridays: Vital Vittles Lunch 11:30-1 pm

SOOKE SENIORS DROP IN CENTRE www.sooke.org/sookeseniors 250-642-6898
6689 Sooke Rd (55+) Mon, Tues, Thurs: Low-cost lunch for seniors 11 am

This list is maintained at victoriahomelessness.ca

Victoria Street Newz, January 2014

[archives & more at relativenewz.ca](#)

Holiday Meals

December 17: Our Place Society, 919 Pandora 11:30 am – 2:00pm Adults only, No Cost.

December 19: Family Holiday Dinner @ James Bay Community School Centre 140 Oswego St. 5 pm, \$7 adults, \$4 children

December 20: Holy Trinity Anglican, 1952 Murray Rd, Sooke 11:30 am-1pm, No Cost

December 22: Living Edge Community, 950 Kings Rd. 4:30 pm dinner and carol singing

December 24: The Tapa Bar, 620 Trounce Alley, 11:30-4:00 pm 250-383-0013, tapabar.ca

December 25: Snacks @ Our Place, 919 Pandora 10 am- 4:00pm, Adults, Drop in & snacks

December 25: Christmas Spirit Community Dinner @ Glad Tidings Church, 1800 Quadra St. Noon and 3 pm sittings. Register @250-472-1040 www.christmasspiritdinner.ca

December 25: Christmas Meal for the Ladies - Sandy Merriman House, 809 Burdett Ave 11:30am - 2pm, Women & Women Identified, 19 +, No Cost, Drop in.

December 25: Kirk Hall – St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 680 Courtney Street noon- 2:00pm, sponsored by 12 Step Recovery, Everyone Welcome, No Cost.

December 25: Glad Tiding Pentecostal, 1800 Quadra, Christmas Spirit Outdoor BBQ 11-6

December 25: Sanctuary Youth Centre, Church of Our Lord, 626 Blanshard – basement level, entrance by parking lot, downstairs 3:00pm- 5:00pm All street involved youth ages 13-19 welcome. No Cost. Live music. (no ID needed, no names will be taken)

December 27: Our Place - UVic Chef's Dinner, 3-5 pm. No cost.

January 15: Salvation Army - 525 Johnson Street noon- 3, No Cost, Donations welcome.

Food Banks

GOLDSTREAM FOOD BANK 250-474-4443 761 Station Ave, V9B 2S1
Required: Picture ID for person collecting. ID for all family members being collected for. Care Cards required for children. Proof of residence in Western Communities (mail, utility bill etc.) Hours: Tues and Wed. 9:30-2:30pm. Open first 3 weeks of the calendar month. Quantity: Based on family size. Availability: Once per month.

MUSTARD SEED 250-953-1575 625 Queens Ave mustardseed.ca/ministries/foodbank
Required: Picture ID for person collecting. ID for all members of family being collected for. Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm. Closed on Wednesdays and the week after IA cheques issued. Quantity: Based on family size. Hampers also available for clients without cooking facilities. Availability: Once per month.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY 250-382-0712 828 View St. svdpvictoria.com
Required: ID for person collecting, and ID for all family members being collected for. Care Cards required for children. Monday-Friday. 8:30am-12 pm, 1 pm-4:15pm. Hampers also available for clients without cooking facilities. Availability: Once every 30 days.

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE EMERGENCY FOOD SERVICE 250-383-7169 1611 Quadra St. www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/page/emergency-food-service-efs
No ID necessary, everyone welcome. Hours: Tues and Fri. 10:00am-12:00pm. Closed Fri & Tues after IA cheques issued, open Friday the following week. Quantity: Single or family sized. Availability: Once per month.

SALT SPRING ISLAND FOOD BANK 250- 537-9971 268 Fulford-Ganges Rd. www.saltspringcommunityservices.ca/foodbank/index.htm
No ID necessary, everyone welcome. Tuesdays. 10:30am-4:00pm. Quantity: Relative to need, preference and family size. Availability: Once per week and on an emergency basis.

SIDNEY LIONS FOOD BANK 250-655-0679 9586 Fifth St. sidneyfoodbank.com
Required: Picture ID for person collecting, ID for all family members being collected for. Proof of residence (any mail with Peninsula address). Cloth bags to carry food, if possible. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. 9:00am-12:00pm. Closed the last week of the month. Quantity: Based on family size. Availability: Once per month.

SOOKE FOOD BANK 250-642-7666 2037 Shields Rd., across from Mom's Cafe. www.sookeregionresources.com/resource/sooke-food-bank-society
ID required for person collecting, and ID for all family members being collected for. Care Cards required for children. Proof of residence in Sooke. Hours: First 3 Thursdays of each month. 9:30am-3:00pm. Quantity: Based on family size. Availability: Once per month.

Some places to call for help

Action Committee of People with Disabilities - 948 View St., 250-383-4105
Adult Addiction Comm. Treatment Serv: 2nd floor, 1250 Quadra, 250-727-3544
AIDS Van Island: 713 Johnson St, 3rd Flr, 250-384-2366 ext 2268; AVI Nx 250-896-2849
BC Utilities Commission (if gas or electricity's shut off where kids live) - 1-800-663-1385
Coalition Against Poverty - vcapvictoria.wordpress.com
Committee to End Homelessness - committeetoendhomelessnessvictoria.wordpress.com, 250 480 4854 or alisonacker@shaw.ca
Cool-Aid Medical Clinic: 250-385-1466 Cool-Aid Phone Service (\$5/mth plus HST): 250-383-1977
Credit Counselling - 250-477-9998 HomelessNation.org - online community
Foundation of Support-Recovery for Men: foundationhousevictoria.blogspot.ca, 250-480-1342
Grief/Bereavement Counsel: Lorraine Jasmin, R.P.C., 1198 Goldstream, sliding scale
Lalli Care Clinic - Drug Info, Med. Review, Alt Health - 250-386-5100, lallicareclinic.ca
Lifering Secular Recovery - (250) 382-1004, www.liferingcanada.org or www.lifering.org (usa)
Men's Trauma Centre: 250-381-6367, #203-1420 Quadra St. www.menstrauma.ca
Outreach Services Methadone Clinic: 2004 Fernwood Rd., 250-480-1232
Prostitute Empowerment & Education (PEERS): 744 Fairview Rd., 250-388-5325
Problem Gambling Help Line - 1-888-795-6111
Research, Education, Evaluation, & Support Prog. (REES): 250-595-8619
Salvation Army Addictions & Rehab Centre: 525 Johnson, 250-384-3396
Seniors' Advocacy Group - 388-7696 for advice; 250-360-1068 to be an advocate
Society of Living Intravenous Drugusers (SOLID): 7-9 pm Weds, 1947 Cook
Harm Reduction - harmreductionvictoria.ca, harmlessvictoria.blogspot.com (students)
Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS): #302-895 Fort St 361-3521
Victoria Native Friendship Centre: 384-3211 -- 231 Regina Ave V8Z 1J6
Victoria Sobering & Assessment Centre: 1125 Pembroke, 250-213-4444
Vancouver Island Addiction Recovery Soc.: 536 Cecelia, 250-480-1342
Youth-to-Youth Support Line - 24 hours. 250-386-TALK, www.youthlines.ca
Vancouver Island Crisis Line: 1-888-494-3888 (all ages); www.youthspace.ca

The amazing and awesome Street Newz Vendor Team



Bernie
Beacon Hill



Bernie
Esquimalt



Craig
London Drugs



Danny
Fort/Foul Bay



Debby
James Bay



Doug
Fort St.



For information about
joining this team
contact **John**
at 250-886-5863
or visit his "office"
near Fort on Douglas St.



Delisle
Fort St. at Yates



Evelyn
Cook St. Village



Richard
Douglas near Fort



Shirley
James Bay Thrifty's



Ted
Gov't Street



Trish
Royal Oak

Thank you for
supporting
independent
media. May money
from the sale of
this newspaper be
used for peace,
and pass through
healing hands.

Where Your \$\$\$\$ Goes



Vendors pay 50
cents for each
Street Newz .

Whatever you
give them is
theirs to keep.



	Oct	Nov	Dec
Street Newz Revenue			
Paper Sales (from previous mth)	292.50	253.50	295.00
Donations	0.00	70.00	0.00
Subscriptions	0.00	80.00	0.00
Gifts (incl in-kind)	40.00	40.00	40.00
Co-ordinator's Contribution	21.15	380.38	102.75
Bread & Roses Donation to SNZ	800.00	800.00	800.00
Total Street Newz Revenue	1153.65	1623.88	1237.75
Street Newz Expenses			
Salaries	800.00	800.00	800.00
Paper & Printing Costs	236.25	327.60	236.25
Postage	72.40	70.53	53.75
Office expenses/website	65.00	150.00	65.00
Vendor/Writer Meetings/Support	0.00	145.75	102.75
Ttl Street Newz Expenses	1173.65	1493.88	1257.75
Street Newz	-20.00	130.00	-20.00
Bread & Roses Revenue			
Grant \$	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Bread & Roses Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bread & Roses Expenses			
Street Newz Donation	800.00	800.00	800.00
Ttl Bread & Roses Expenses	800.00	800.00	800.00
Bread & Roses	-800.00	-800.00	-800.00
Consolidated Ttl (SNZ + B&R)	-820.00	-670.00	-820.00
Bread & Roses Bank Balance	7854.89	6687.58	6597.58

Subscriptions and Support !!

Subscription Rates (12 issues/year):

Electronic	Regular	Low Income	USA	Int'l
\$20	\$40	\$20	\$45	\$50

Donations keep us Independent:

\$10	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$200	other
------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

Name:

Address:

City:

Province/State: Postal/Zip:

Phone/email:

Please return to:
Victoria Street Newz
1027 Pandora Ave, Vic BC,
Coast Salish Territories, V8V 3P6
or donate safely online - relativenewz.ca
Thanks for your support!